

CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
505 TRAVIS STREET, GOVERNMENT PLAZA
PUBLIC NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Streaming at www.caddo.org
February 20, 2020
3:30 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL:

Commissioners:

Hopkins	District 1	Gage-Watts	District 7
Johnson	District 2	Taliaferro	District 8
Jackson	District 3	Atkins	District 9
Young	District 4	Chavez	District 10
Burrell	District 5	Lazarus	District 11
Cawthorne	District 6	Epperson	District 12

2. INVOCATION:

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Veterans and active military members saluting during recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance would be appropriate, should you wish to do so.

4. AGENDA ADDITIONS:

5. CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Citizens who wish to address the Commission on any issue other than zoning, please fill out a comment card located in the chamber foyer and return to the President or the Clerk of the Commission. Individual comments are limited to 3 minutes

NOTE: Citizens who wish to address the Commission on matters relative to public hearings (items listed on the agenda only) will be limited to a cumulative total of 15 minutes each, for or against an issue. Those who wish to speak or make a presentation are asked to select their speakers and address the points they wish considered with this limitation in mind.

6. VISITORS:

7. ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Documents:

[2.6.2020 REGULAR SESSION MINUTES.PDF](#)

8. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS:

9. COMMUNIQUE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration response to information requests from Commissioners

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

11. PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING ORDINANCES AND CASES:

12. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES:

12.I. Ordinance No. 5943 Of 2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC. AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

(Commissioner Jackson)

Documents:

[5943 FACT SHEET NORTH LOUISIANA LEGAL AID.PDF](#)
[5943 LEGAL SERVICES FINAL.PDF](#)

13. ZONING ORDINANCES: (For Final Passage)

14. ORDINANCES: (For Final Passage)

14.I. Ordinance No. 5943 Of 2020

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC. AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

(Commissioner Jackson)

Documents:

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[5943 LEGAL SERVICES FINAL.PDF](#)

15. ZONING ORDINANCES (For Introduction By Title)

16. ORDINANCES: (For Introduction By Title)

17. WORK SESSION MINUTES FEBRUARY 18, 2020
RATIFY WORK SESSION MINUTES

18. RESOLUTIONS:

18.I. Resolution No. 12 Of 2020
A RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL
ILLNESSES IN JAILS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

(Commissioner Gage-Watts)

Documents:

[12 STEPPING UP - MENTAL HEALTH IN LOCAL JAILS.PDF](#)

18.II. Resolution No. 13 Of 2020
A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF CADDO URGING THE LOUISIANA STATE
LEGISLATURE TO STRENGTHEN THE LOUISIANA GUN LAW BY
INCORPORATING MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNING AND CARRYING
A FIREARM, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

(Commissioner Johnson)

Documents:

[13 GUN LAW.PDF](#)

18.III. Resolution No. 14 Of 2020
A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHWEST
LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (NLCOG), THE COORDINATION AND
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CDC), AND THE LSUS RED RIVER
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING
FOR GRANT FUNDING AND ACTING IN SUPPORT OF WATERSHED REGION
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE OF
LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH
RESPECT THERETO

(Administration)

Documents:

[14 WATERSHED INITIATIVE.PDF](#)

19. OLD BUSINESS:

20. NEW BUSINESS:

20.I. Confirm Re-Opening The Hiring Process For The Commission Clerk, Starting Internally
(Commissioner Epperson)

20.II. Confirm Submitting Formal Request On Behalf Of The Parish To The BOR Shreveport
Law School Study
(Commissioner Jackson)

Documents:

[DRAFT PARISH FEEDBACK TO STUDYREV.PDF](#)

21. COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

22. CITIZEN COMMENTS (Late Arrivals)

23. ADJOURN:

To all persons desiring to attend and observe a meeting of the Caddo Parish Commission, or who wish to present information to the body: If you have physical limitations that require special accommodations in order for you to attend and participate in a meeting of the Caddo Parish Commission, please contact the office of the Caddo Parish Commission Clerk at (318) 226-6596, at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting so that an effort can be made to provide those accommodations.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 6th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2020

The Caddo Parish Commission met in legal and regular session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with President Chavez, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Burrell led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Carter Bedford came before the Commission to announce his candidacy for the Mayor of Greenwood.

Mr. John Harrell came before the Commission and requested that the Commission go back to the previous zoning ordinances prior to the UDC.

Ms. Kathy Rivers stated that Mr. James Sites received a notice from the MPC regarding equipment on his property. She said that Mr. Sites has been outside of Blanchard for 38 years, and his equipment is his livelihood. Mr. Sites is 75 years and cannot afford to relocate nor move his equipment. She is asking that the UDC be abolished and go back to the previous zoning ordinances.

Ms. Donna Green said they moved outside of the city limits for a reason, and feels encroached upon. She also said that there are several violations inside the city limits.

Mr. Jake Brown talked about Act No. 34 of 1954 House Legislation. He said that he went before the MPC and advised them that they have the power to recommend to the Commission to get the Master Plan and UDC repealed and replaced with something else that fits the rural areas. He said that the UDC was set up to take the citizens' property rights. He is asking that the UDC be repealed.

Ms. Jayne Tappe said that the Commission has the power to "fix this". She is asking that the Commission to repeal the UDC.

Mr. Brian White came before the Commission concerning the chemicals used to spray for weeds. He said that they are using Esplanade, which is toxic to fish, may impact water through run-off, etc. He is concerned because it may impact water quality and could contaminate the water supply. Mr. Chavez directed Mr. White's concerns to Mrs. Bryant.

Mr. Ervin Foster talked about Settle Law. He wanted to know if the citizens are to view the UDC as Settle Law. Mr. Chavez directed Mr. Foster to Attorney Bernstein to further address his concerns.

Ms. Sharon Flournoy came before the Commission and read aloud a letter from Apostle Cornell Hamilton in reference to Ms. Laura Neubert's candidacy for the MPC:

Caddo Parish Commission Board,

Please accept this letter as a full and favorable recommendation for Laura Neubert to fill the vacancy of the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Mrs. Neubert is a leader in the community, a successful business owner, and has worked with me in my church on issues that I reached out to her on for her help. She has never hesitated to help with my requests; has always exhibited the characteristics of concern and proud citizens of Shreveport; and is a perfect example of the person needed to fill this vacancy. She will represent all citizens of Shreveport and the surrounding areas that is in the jurisdiction of the MPC with honesty, integrity, and compassion. I ask that you vote favorable for her appointment in this position.

*With kindest regards, I am respectfully yours,
/s/ Apostle Cornell Hamilton*

Mr. Jacques Brooks came before the Commission and read aloud a letter from Principal Justin James, Airline High School, in reference to Ms. Laura Neubert's candidacy for the MPC:

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Justin James. I am the principal of Airline High School. First, let me say thank you. Thank you for allowing this opportunity. I am honored to write this on behalf of my family members who live in Districts 1 & 2 of Caddo Parish. I have known Laura Neubert for over 30 years. I speak on behalf of everyone when I say Laura is like a family member. Laura has many strengths that make her special. One is that she has a business mind; she has built a company that is respected in this community and serves northwest Louisiana. Laura is driven; she is a woman who sets her mind to something

and sees it through. Laura is level-headed. As an educational leader, I reach out to stakeholders in my community to ask for opinions and ideas. I've reached out to Laura many times in need of an outside opinion. Laura is smart. She is not afraid to tell you what she thinks. In my profession, these characteristics are invaluable. They are intangible; you can't touch them; you can't pick them up and take them with you. They are learned through trial and error, failures and success. In my profession, I need people who aren't afraid to think out of the box. My father, Bill James, was born in 1925. He graduated from Fair Park High School. He served in the Navy during WWII. He went on to be with the Lord on Christmas Eve of 1998. One of the last things my father told me was this, "Son, you will meet many types of people in your life. One of these will be confidants. A confidant is someone who is for you; for what you're for; against what you're against; and if you come across a confidant, hold them close. A man is lucky to only have a few confidants in his lifetime." Laura Neubert is one of my confidants. Not just for me, but for my entire family. Laura Neubert is family. It is with great pleasure to write this on behalf of my friend, Laura Neubert. I have no doubt that Laura will serve the citizens of Shreveport and the Caddo residents in the planning zone with integrity, dignity, and honor.

*Thank you,
/s/ Justin James*

Mr. James O'Brock came before the Commission and read aloud the following statement:

I'm here to talk about two polar opposites: waste and common sense. Many of you have been wasting our time and our resources on a vendetta to remove history. The Confederate Monument is a memorial to the Civil War, nothing else. At this point, let me confess I'm a Yankee from Ohio married to a Southern bell who forty years ago chased me until I caught her. I am not invested in a 100 year old Confederate Monument, just as I have no ties to most of the tombstones in our cemeteries. What I am invested in is this City and Parish. Million dollars here, million dollars there, and pretty soon you're talking about some serious money wasted. The recent political movement to remove any physical sign of our country's history lacks any common sense, but is overflowing with waste. The time and money already spent on this would have been better spent on solving some real problems. How about fixing some potholes? Or feeding some children? Or puppies? Or kittens? And now you've allocated, but not spent an additional \$500,000 of our tax dollars to a cause that will not benefit even one of our citizens. Repeat: it won't benefit even one person. Does this sound like common sense? When you ran for election, did any of you promise, 'if I'm elected, I'll remove any reference to the Civil War'? I'm not asking for a show of hands. There's another wonderful waste of money—I promise I will use our tax dollars to buy the old GM Plant and give it away. By the way, I have \$1,000 invested in my Elio that I'll never see. Now I'm betting you promised the voters that you would work to improve our streets, schools, and infrastructure. And you would work to make life better in Caddo Parish. I'm here to ask you to find some common sense. Borrow it if you have to, and don't spend our money on something that will not benefit even one citizen. If you continue to pursue wasting our money to remove history, then you must not like children, puppies, or kittens. In addition, I'm asking every logical person that can hear the sound of my voice, to let this Commission know that you don't want your tax money wasted on the removal of the Confederate Monument or any other boondoggle that they can come up with. One more thing that I would like to point out, of all of our dedicated public servants, only four have acknowledged my emails.

Ms. Valerie Todd came before the Commission concerning the noise the oil companies are making during all times of the day and night. She also said that the oil companies have killed all of the feral bees in the area. She also voiced her concern regarding bees that she had to bring in, and the dust that the oil companies are kicking up that killed her bees. Mr. Chavez directed Ms. Todd to Attorney Bernstein for further assistance.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, *that the Regular Session Minutes from January 23, 2020 be adopted. Motion carried.*

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, *that Special Resolution of Recognition to Doug Dominick, Matthew Linn, Jim Smith, Kenneth Epperson, and Jerald Bowman for years of service as Caddo Parish Commissioners be approved. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

PROCLAMATION YEARS OF SERVICE TO CADDO PARISH COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to join in acknowledging and honoring those citizens of the Parish who by their ongoing demonstrations of selfless service to their fellow man set superlative examples of good citizenship and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, such individuals Mr. Jerald Bowman, Mr. Doug Dominick, Mr. Kenneth R. Epperson, Sr., Mr. Matthew Linn, and Mr. Jim Smith who have all served for several years as Caddo Parish Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jerald Bowman was appointed in 2013 to fill the seat of Commission District 5 left by the passing of his mother, former Commissioner Joyce Bowman. In 2019, Mr. Bowman served as the Caddo Parish Commission Parliamentarian and continued to serve the constituents of District 5 until January of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Doug Dominick was appointed to serve the Commission District 1 seat in 2007 left by the resignation of former Commissioner Jim Morris. Mr. Dominick served as the Caddo Parish Commission President during 2014 and 2018. He continued to serve the constituents of District 1 until January of 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kenneth R. Epperson, Sr. is currently serving his 22nd year as a Caddo Parish Commissioner. He began his service with the Commission in 1992 as Commissioner of District 6; currently, he is the Caddo Parish Commissioner for District 12. This makes him the only Commissioner to have served two different districts. Mr. Epperson also held the title for Caddo Parish Commission President in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Matthew Linn was elected to serve Caddo Parish Commission District 4 in 2008. He served as Caddo Parish Commission President in 2016 and continued to serve his constituents until January 2020; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jim Smith was appointed to fill the Commission District 11 seat in 2006 left by the resignation of former Commissioner Ron Webb. Mr. Smith proudly served the citizens of District 11 until January 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Jerald Bowman, Mr. Doug Dominick, Mr. Ken Epperson, Mr. Matthew Linn, and Mr. Jim Smith for their invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of their service to the citizens of Caddo Parish.

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Special Resolution of Remembrance to DJ Star* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Burrell said that Mr. Johnson was a jewel to this community and Monroe.

Mrs. Deborah Coleman thanked the Commission for honoring the memory of her son.

Mr. Epperson pointed out that Ms. Washington (Mr. Johnson's sister) is a faithful member of the Veterans Celebration Committee.

RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE & RESPECT DONALD RAY JOHNSON, II

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sadness and regret to reflect upon the untimely passing of Mr. Donald Ray Johnson, II, also known as DJ Star, who went to meet his Heavenly Father; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Donald Ray Johnson II was born to Deborah Coleman and Donald Johnson on June 13, 1984 in Zweibrucken, Germany; and

WHEREAS, as a self-proclaimed "old soul", Donald developed an early love of music, and became affectionately known as DJ Star; and

WHEREAS, DJ Star was educated in Caddo Parish Public Schools, graduated from Fair Park High School in 2002 and attended Grambling State University, joining the drumline of the world-famed Grambling State University Marching Band; and

WHEREAS, DJ Star began his career, through the GoDJ Louisiana family, became Chief Executive Officer at Headlines Starlight Entertainment, and was a highly-requested DJ for many musical artists, including Hurricane Chris, Ay Bay Bay, and Damar Jackson; and

WHEREAS, DJ Star has performed multiple times in music entertainment, including MTV's My Super Sweet 16, ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live, BET's 106 & Park, NBC's Last Call with Carson Daly, BET's Hip-Hop Awards, Showtime at the Apollo and in the 2012 movie, New Hope; and

WHEREAS, DJ Star progressed from being a nighttime DJ to being the primetime host of 100.1 the Beat from 5pm to 10pm Monday through Friday, sharing his laughter and personality and reaching people across the United States and the world, yet always representing for Louisiana and Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, more than being a DJ, Star especially loved his family and his children, as a father to Khyron, Mason, and Skylar, reminding them and us each day on the radio to keep God first and everything would be alright, to "walk by faith and not by sight, make your next move, your best move".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does express its deepest sense of sorrow and loss upon the passing of Dj Star conveying herein its most sincere expressions of sympathy and condolence to his family and friends, who can be consoled in the knowledge of his lasting legacy.

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mrs. Bryant stated that there was an ad-hoc committee formed when the Commission moved into this building. The Commission's portion of that committee consisted of the Vice-President, President, and immediate past President. She would like to contact the City Council regarding concerns with the building.

- Mr. Epperson announced that a UDC Informational Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Bill Cockrell Community Center, 4109 Pines Road. He invited all to attend.

- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson scheduled a NGO Committee meeting for Tuesday, February 18 at 3:00 p.m. He also scheduled a Long Range Planning Committee meeting for Thursday, February 20 at 2:00 p.m. regarding the UDC.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know if the illegal dumping ground on Cross Lake was being addressed.

- Mr. Young wanted to know if any members of the MPC Board will be attending the town hall meetings regarding the UDC. Mr. Clark stated that they did not ask the MPC Board Members to attend the meetings. He explained that the staff will be collecting as much data as possible for the board members. Mr. Young encouraged the board members to attend.

- Mr. Atkins wanted a follow-up on the process for holding the UDC town hall meetings. Mr. Chavez explained that Districts 4, 8, 9, 10, and 11 will have a meeting after Mr. Epperson's meeting at a centrally located area for the citizens to attend.

Mr. Atkins then addressed the Caddo Alliance for Freedom and said that they are working with the MPC to find a workable solution to their concerns.

Mr. Atkins stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting will be in the near future.

- Mr. Chavez reminded the Commissioners that their committee assignments have been sent out. He also announced that Commissioners Jackson and Johnson will be serving on the 2030 Master Plan Committee.

- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson asked that a citizen from District 2 get in touch with him to set up a town hall meeting for his district.

He also asked for an update on the Welcome Signs for I-49. Mrs. Bryant explained that they are in the process of receiving a quote.

- Mr. Epperson provided a copy of the Letter to the Editor by Tony Williams. He said that Mr. Williams is a veteran in the military and a Caddo Parish resident.

- Mr. Hopkins said that there will be two different meetings for North Caddo Parish due the amount of citizens in that area of the Parish.

He also reminded the Commissioners of the Police Jury Association.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Chavez said that there are six returning Commissioners, and six new Commissioners. He welcomed all those who are now serving the citizens of Caddo Parish. He thanked Dr. Wilson and staff for all of their hard work in "keeping the Parish going".

ORDINANCES (introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 5943 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$20,000 to provide an appropriation to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that the Work Session Minutes from February 3, 2020 be approved. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Resolution No. 9 of 2020, a resolution in support of fostering and promoting healthy early childhood development throughout Northwest Louisiana be adopted.*

Mr. Epperson stated that Caddo Community Action Agency has a premiere Head Start Program.

Ms. Laura Alderman, Step Forward, came before the Commission and thanked the Commission for participating in the Step Forward Early Childhood Summit last fall. She said that 60% of children in Northwest Louisiana are not kindergarten ready, and this initiative is to promote healthy early childhood development to decrease those numbers.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 9 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FOSTERING AND PROMOTING
HEALTHY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT
NORTHWEST LOUISIANA

WHEREAS, all Northwest Louisiana children should have the opportunity to succeed;
and

WHEREAS, kindergarten readiness affects a child's future opportunities and health; and

WHEREAS, 59% of children in northwest Louisiana are not kindergarten ready; and

WHEREAS, the major problems our region faces—crime, poor workforce development, and underperforming schools—can be traced to this single statistic; and

WHEREAS, 90% of brain development occurs during the first five years of life, which makes these years particularly critical to the emergence of a strong society; and

WHEREAS, healthy development in these early years provides the building blocks for educational achievement, economic productivity, responsible citizenship, lifelong health, strong communities, and successful parenting of the next generation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the below signatories agree to communicate, collaborate and prioritize all of the work necessary to develop a culture that promotes early childhood education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the signatories hereto agree to work proactively and collaboratively to implement the objectives set forth below with the goal of reaching all families with young children in the Caddo Bossier MSA to afford them the opportunity to achieve kindergarten readiness:

1. Create and disseminate a consistent community message on early brain development and the implications for society-at-large.
2. Identify, link together, improve and expand all systems to strengthen families, and to promote quality and affordable childcare and kindergarten readiness.

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 the Resolution are hereby declared severable.

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

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

It was **moved by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Resolution No. 10 of 2020, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to request and authorize the Louisiana State Mineral & Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations and advertise for oil, gas, and mineral leases, accept bids, and award and execute oil, gas, and mineral leases on certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 10 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO REQUEST AND AUTHORIZE THE LOUISIANA STATE MINERAL AND ENERGY BOARD AND THE OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS AND ADVERTISE FOR OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES, ACCEPT BIDS, AND AWARD AND EXECUTE OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES ON CERTAIN MINERAL INTERESTS OWNED BY THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo may own certain mineral rights underlying the following described property, to-wit:

Those certain road dedications located in Section 3, Township 15 North, Range 15 West, known as Cedar Hill Road, Post Oak Road, Pine Grove Road and Sparks Davis Road, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and containing 23.71 acres, more or less, and those certain adjudicated properties described as that part of NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 3 lying West of Dana Farms, Unit 5, with a Geo. #151503-006-0101, containing .31 acres and Lot 2, Self Acres Subdivision, with a Geo. #151503-014-0002, containing .76 acres, and the South 52.5 feet of Lot 3, Self Acres Subdivision, with a Geo. #151503-014-0006, containing .38 acres, said adjudicated property total acreage being 1.45 acres, more or less, with Section 3, T15N, R15W containing a total of 25.16 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 4, Township 15 North, Range 15 West, known as Cedar Hill Road, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing .45 acres, more or less, with Section 4, T15N, R15W containing a total of .45 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 10, Township 15 North, Range 15 West, known as Farmette Drive, Roberts Drive, Williams Road and Stoer Road, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 7.79 acres, more or less, with Section 10, T15N, R15W containing a total of 7.79 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from Cypress Energy Corporation, that the Parish seek public bids for an oil, gas and mineral lease covering said property; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo does not have the knowledge or resources available to determine if it owns the mineral rights and the Parish of Caddo will rely on the expertise and experience of the lessee in determining ownership; and

WHEREAS, it is expressly agreed that any lease granted by the Parish of Caddo and accepted by lessee is without any warranty of title and without any recourse against the Parish of Caddo whatsoever, either express or implied, and it is expressly agreed that the Parish of Caddo shall not be required to return any payments received or be otherwise responsible to lessee therefore; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, is available upon the request of Caddo Parish to lease the aforesaid property for oil, gas and other minerals if requested to do so by Caddo Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, be and it is hereby requested and authorized to accept nominations and advertise for oil, gas and mineral leases, accept bids and award and execute oil, gas and mineral leases on the aforesaid properties of certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a no surface operations provision as follows: Lessee, its successors or assigns, may produce oil, gas and other minerals from the leased premises by drilling from a surface location on other lands, but notwithstanding any other provision of this lease, Lessee, its successors or assigns, shall not use the surface of the Lessor's property for drilling or any other operations without prior written permission of Lessor, which permission may be withheld at Lessor's discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a horizontal prugh provision as follows: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, at the end of the primary term or any extension thereof by operations, if the Commission of Conservation of the State of Louisiana establishes a drilling unit which includes a part of the land herein leased, the production of oil, gas and other minerals from such unit shall maintain this lease in full force and effect only as to such portions of the leased land embraced in said pooled unit; and this lease shall expire as to that part of the land herein leased not included in such unit; and lessee, its successors and assigns agrees to relinquish by formal instrument any portion of the leased land not included in a unit created by the Commission of Conservation while this lease is in effect

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a vertical prugh provision as follows: Upon the expiration of the primary term hereof or any extension thereof by operations, this lease shall automatically terminate and be of no further force or effect except as to all that part of the leased premises then included within the geographical boundaries of a producing unit duly established by governmental agency or authority having jurisdiction, from the surface of the earth to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which any well commenced during the primary term hereof on the leased premises or on lands pooled therewith is completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a unit by unit basis. In the absence of units so established, this lease shall terminate except as to 40 acres around each producing oil well and 160 acres around each producing or shut-in gas well located on the leased premises, in as near the form of a square as is practicable, from the surface of the earth down to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which said well or wells are completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a well by well basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum royalty provision as follows: Royalty of not less than 1/4th or 25%.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum bonus provision as follows: Bonus of not less than \$1,250.00 per acre.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a hard or solid mineral exclusion provision as follows: This lease shall exclude free sulphur, potash, lignite, salt and any other hard or solid mineral. Lessee shall not have any rights to explore, drill for, mine, produce or take any action whatsoever in regard to any such hard or solid mineral deposits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a maximum term provision as follows: Primary term of lease shall not exceed three (3) years.

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

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

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

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Resolution No. 11 of 2020, a resolution of remembrance and respect to the memory of Mr. Willie D. Burton, Jr. be adopted.*

Mr. Cawthorne said that Mr. Burton passed away last week. During his lifetime, he authored several book regarding the contributions of African-Americans in this community.

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked that she be a co-sponsor to this resolution. Mr. Burrell asked that he also be a co-sponsor to this resolution.

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 11 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE AND RESPECT TO THE MEMORY OF MR. WILLIE D. BURTON, JR.

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sad fondness upon the life and works of Mr. Willie D. Burton, Jr. whose passing on January 23, 2020, marked the close of a long and productive life of civic, community, and public service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burton was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, graduating from the historic Booker T. Washington High School in 1962. He continued his education and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Southern University and a Master of Arts Degree from North Carolina Central University; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the importance and power of each individual's vote, Mr. Burton participated in civil rights marches for voter registration and school desegregation in 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burton offered himself to public service where he served as a member of the Caddo Parish School Board—District 3 for two decades, from January 1991 until his resignation in his sixth term in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burton was also an author, researcher, and history professor at Southern University in Shreveport for 44 years, retiring a year after resigning from the Caddo Parish School Board. His research and memorabilia is still housed at the school in the Willie Burton Museum at the Leonard C. Barnes Administration Building; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burton authored "On the Black Side of Shreveport: A History", which tells the story of the history and contribution of African-Americans in Shreveport. He also authored "The Blacker the Berry: A Black History of Shreveport"

WHEREAS, Mr. Burton is warmly remembered by many current and past associates and friends as a man with a warm, compassionate, and helpful spirit, as well as a strong and purposeful resolve to make a difference on behalf of his community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does express its deepest sense of sorrow and loss upon the passing of Mr. Willie D. Burton, Jr. conveying herein its most sincere expressions of sympathy and condolence to his family and friends, who can be consoled in the knowledge of his lasting contributions and achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective immediately.

NEW BUSINESS

The Commission then moved onto the next New Business item, *confirm appointment to the Industrial Development Board to fill the unexpired term left by the resignation of Mr. Larry Ferdinand, term to expire August 22, 2025.*

It was **moved by Mr. Taliaferro**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to remove Ms. Earnestine Smith as a candidate from consideration for the Industrial Development Board. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, the body then moved onto voting on the following candidates: Mr. Bill McCollum and Ms. Kay Proby-Waller for the unexpired term on the Industrial Development Board.

Mr. Bill McCollum received 4 (four) Aye votes: Commissioners Atkins, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Young (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1).

Ms. Kay Proby-Waller received 7 (seven) Aye votes: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Johnson, and Taliaferro (7). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1).

At this time, Ms. Kay Proby-Waller was appointed to the Industrial Development Board.

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Mr. Carlos Gipson and Mr. Ed Angel be reappointed to the Caddo Parish Fire District No. 1 Board, term to expire January 1, 2022. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Kyle Dill and Mr. David Winkler be reappointed to the Caddo Parish Fire District No. 5 Board, term to expire January 1, 2022. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to confirm setting the deadline for submission of names for the Charter Review Committee to be considered during the March 5, 2020 Regular Session.*

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if there was a time constraint appointing the Charter Review Committee members. Attorney Frazier stated that there was not, however, the previous Charter Review Committee was appointed by April and had their first meeting in May.

Substitute motion by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that these appointments and recommendations be delayed to the March 19 Regular Session. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Epperson said that there are several events happening in the next month and believes it would be more prudent for the Commissioners to take a little more time to submit names for the Charter Review Committee.

COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson asked that the Commissioners support him in the position of the PJAL At-Large Member.
- Mr. Johnson is glad to see Mr. Bedford running for Mayor for the Town of Greenwood.

Mr. Johnson also addressed a citizen who commented on the former GM Plant. He explained that the building was valued over \$100M, but the Parish only paid \$7M for it. He also said that the building is currently being leased at \$65,000 per month, along with the utilities being paid. Mr. Johnson also pointed out that there are jobs at the GM Plant. He also explained that the Parish did not give Elio Motors “not one penny”.

He also talked about the Confederate Monument. He said that there are several people who want that monument moved. He explained that African-Americans did not have the same rights during the time the monument was erected. Mr. Johnson said that the monument will hopefully be removed and relocated to a more appropriate place.

- Mr. Atkins congratulated Ms. Proby-Waller for her appointment on the IDB. He also encouraged Mr. McCollum to offer himself for more board appointments in the future.
- Mr. Cawthorne congratulated Mr. Bedford on putting himself forward as a candidate for the Mayor of Greenwood.
- Mr. Epperson congratulated Mr. Bedford as well.
- Mr. Burrell also congratulated Mr. Bedford on putting himself in the political ring.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (late arrivals)

Ms. Beth Foster submitted a citizen comment card, but was not in attendance when Mr. Chavez called out her name.

Mr. Chris Krackman appreciates the Commission for taking notice and calling meetings concerning the UDC. He is in agreement that the MPC board members should attend the meetings. Mr. Krackman also explained that the MPC Board does not listen to Mr. Clark's recommendations. He suggested that the Parish be separated from the MPC.

There was discussion among the Commissioners regarding Citizens Comments (late arrivals) due to some citizens who wanted to speak for a second time; some citizens who were in the Chambers earlier in the meeting, but would like to speak now; etc. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson explained that the Citizens Comments (late arrivals) are for those citizens who came to the meeting late, not for citizens who were already in the Chambers. Mr. Atkins argued that citizens who choose not to speak until after the discussion has been had should still be able to speak.

Ms. Brenda O'Brock came before the Commission to speak about early childhood education. She said that there are "problems if you push children too much too early". She said that she's been fighting Common Core for years now. She suggested that a study be performed in this field of expertise.

Ms. Catherine Bass thanked the Commission for being attentive to the citizens' concerns.

Mr. Bruce Deville came before the Commission and said that the rural citizens are under-represented.

Mr. Chavez explained that there are two citizens comment cards with citizens who spoke previously in the meeting. Attorney Frazier explained that if a topic has exhausted its time in the first Citizens Comments section, then a citizen cannot come back during the second section for additional time. If they are speaking on a different comment, then she would defer to the Commission on addressing it.

Ms. Jane Tappe came before the Commission regarding "being uninvited" to the Commission Chambers. Mr. Chavez pointed out that was not the intent of the Commission. He explained that the Commission was being courteous because that topic was not on the agenda. Mr. Epperson apologized to the citizens because it was not his intention to "uninvited" any citizen. He explained that the issue that they were concerned about was not going to be addressed during the Regular Session.

Mr. Sherard Brown came before the Commission regarding the UDC. He explained that he received a violation regarding a commercial trailer in his yard. He said that is his livelihood and how he makes a living. He also said that he moved out of the city limits to have more freedoms such as parking a trailer in his yard. He asked that the Commission look into the UDC further.

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to allow Mr. James O'Brock to speak for a second time under Citizens Comments about the same topic.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Chavez, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (3). ABSENT: Commissioners Epperson and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. James O'Brock understands that there are many people who want the Confederate Monument moved, but he feels that there are places where that money could be better spent.

There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Mario Chavez
President

Michelle Nations
Deputy Commission Clerk

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION FORM

CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

TITLE	
ORDINANCE AMENDING 2020 BUDGET FOR APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL AID OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC.	
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Commissioner Jackson via Finance and Legal	
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:	
Funds will:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide funding to Parish entities (Clerk of Court, District Attorney, Sheriff) to offset cost to grant waiver and not individuals• Limited to one expungement per person• Individuals must be a current Caddo Parish resident and provide at least to forms of verification• Individuals must participate in 15 hours of community service from an approved community-based agency• Individuals must meet low income requirement set by Legal Aid of Louisiana	
Funding is needed because:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pauper expungement filing is an option but is left to the discretion of the judge. Very few pauper requests have been granted in Caddo Parish.• Pauper does not relieve individual of paying fees. It only defers upfront payment of expungement fees.• Having an arrest record prevents individuals from obtaining meaningful employment, financial aid, and other benefits.	
KEY STAFF CONTACT: Commissioner Jackson via Finance and Legal	
AUTHORIZATION	
Department Head _____	Date _____
Legal _____	Date _____
Parish Administrator _____	Date _____

ORDINANCE NO. OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC. AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, expungement helps relieve citizens of their arrest record in order to help them obtain employment, financial aid and other benefits; and

WHEREAS, Legal Services of North Louisiana provides legal services to indigent individuals who meet expungement criteria; and

WHEREAS, the option of a pauper expungement is available, but it only defers the upfront payment of the fees and is at the discretion of the Judge; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide an appropriation to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. to offset the expenses to Parish entities (Clerk of Court \$200, District Attorney \$50, and Sheriff \$50) to grant indigent clients fee waiver for expungement; and

WHEREAS, each individual seeking grant waiver must be a Caddo Parish resident with at least two forms of residency verification; and

WHEREAS, each individual is limited to one expungement per calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the individual must participate in 15 hours of community service from an approved community-based agency; and

WHEREAS, the individual must meet low income requirement set by Legal Services of North Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission hosts an annual Pathways to Prosperity Expungement Summit for Caddo residents; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission's Economic Development committee recommended an appropriation of \$20,000 to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. to aid in expungements for indigent citizens; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2020 Economic Development Fund Budget to appropriate \$20,000 to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

Budget Increase (Decrease)

Economic Development Fund

Non-Governmental Appropriations	
Legal Services of North LA, Inc.	\$20,000
Fund Balance	(\$20,000)

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

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

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION FORM

CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

TITLE

ORDINANCE AMENDING 2020 BUDGET FOR APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL AID OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC.

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Commissioner Jackson via Finance and Legal

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Funds will:

- Provide funding to Parish entities (Clerk of Court, District Attorney, Sheriff) to offset cost to grant waiver and not individuals
- Limited to one expungement per person
- Individuals must be a current Caddo Parish resident and provide at least to forms of verification
- Individuals must participate in 15 hours of community service from an approved community-based agency
- Individuals must meet low income requirement set by Legal Aid of Louisiana

Funding is needed because:

- Pauper expungement filing is an option but is left to the discretion of the judge. Very few pauper requests have been granted in Caddo Parish.
- Pauper does not relieve individual of paying fees. It only defers upfront payment of expungement fees.
- Having an arrest record prevents individuals from obtaining meaningful employment, financial aid, and other benefits.

KEY STAFF CONTACT: Commissioner Jackson via Finance and Legal

AUTHORIZATION

Department Head _____ Date _____

Legal _____ Date _____

Parish Administrator _____ Date _____

ORDINANCE NO. OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION TO LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH LOUISIANA, INC. AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, expungement helps relieve citizens of their arrest record in order to help them obtain employment, financial aid and other benefits; and

WHEREAS, Legal Services of North Louisiana provides legal services to indigent individuals who meet expungement criteria; and

WHEREAS, the option of a pauper expungement is available, but it only defers the upfront payment of the fees and is at the discretion of the Judge; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide an appropriation to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. to offset the expenses to Parish entities (Clerk of Court \$200, District Attorney \$50, and Sheriff \$50) to grant indigent clients fee waiver for expungement; and

WHEREAS, each individual seeking grant waiver must be a Caddo Parish resident with at least two forms of residency verification; and

WHEREAS, each individual is limited to one expungement per calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the individual must participate in 15 hours of community service from an approved community-based agency; and

WHEREAS, the individual must meet low income requirement set by Legal Services of North Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission hosts an annual Pathways to Prosperity Expungement Summit for Caddo residents; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission's Economic Development committee recommended an appropriation of \$20,000 to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc. to aid in expungements for indigent citizens; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2020 Economic Development Fund Budget to appropriate \$20,000 to Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

Budget Increase (Decrease)

Economic Development Fund

Non-Governmental Appropriations	
Legal Services of North LA, Inc.	\$20,000
Fund Balance	(\$20,000)

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

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

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

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 12 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO MENTAL HEALTH AMONG INCARCERATED PERSONS, TO ENDORSE AND SUPPORT THE STEPPING UP MOVEMENT AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, local governments routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year;

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general public;

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders;

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders;

WHEREAS, local government jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs;

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families;

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish and all parishes and counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private, and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby do hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our local government jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other parishes and counties in my state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all local government officials, employees, and residents to participate in Stepping Up.

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.

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 13 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF CADDO URGING THE LOUISIANA STATE LEGISLATURE TO STRENGTHEN THE LOUISIANA GUN LAW BY INCORPORATING MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR OWNING AND CARRYING A FIREARM, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, there have been multiple mass shootings in the United States within the past several years; and

WHEREAS, studies show that states with stricter gun control laws have fewer mass shootings;

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

Support legislation which strengthens the Louisiana Gun Laws by incorporating mandatory requirements for owning and carrying a firearm as well as legislation making it illegal to possess and use assault weapons (full automatic and semi-automatic with magazines/clips over 20 rounds,) except for the active military or law enforcement while on duty.

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

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

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date

RESOLUTION NO. ? OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (NLCOG), THE COORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CDC), AND THE LSUS RED RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR GRANT FUNDING AND ACTING IN SUPPORT OF WATERSHED REGION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE OF LOUISIANA WATERSHED INITIATIVE, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative was formed in order to coordinate statewide floodplain management efforts through a watershed management approach in response to the 2016 Great Floods and in preparation for future storm and flood events. This coordination includes outreach with local communities to build support for watershed region management approaches that can more effectively address mounting water risks statewide; and

WHEREAS, coordination among The Parish of Caddo and its regional partners is critical to reducing flood risk and preserving the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Watershed Initiative has requested applications for participation in a Regional Capacity Building Grant Program, which may enable the provision of technical assistance to [subject parish or organization] and its regional partners if awarded, thereby furthering immediate watershed management and flood risk reduction goals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the agreement between the Parish of Caddo and The Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG), the Coordination and Development Corporation (CDC), and the LSUS Red River Watershed Management Institute, for the purpose of applying for grant funding and acting in support of watershed region management activities and in conjunction with the State of Louisiana Watershed Initiative is hereby approved.

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 resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date

Parish Feedback:

Background

There have been proposals to increase legal education capacity in the Shreveport/Bossier region for more than fifteen years. In 2007, encouraged by officials from Caddo Parish and the City of Shreveport, Louisiana College proposed developing a new law school to serve the region. Extensive planning occurred as a result including identifying facilities and recruiting a Dean. But this was an unfortunate time for legal education nationally with law school enrollments falling and the country in recession. For reasons unrelated to the law school proposal, moreover, Louisiana College encountered financial problems and experienced substantial scrutiny from its regional accreditation organization, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). In the face of these pressures, the College's plan for opening a new law school was abandoned.

Since that time, proposals to increase legal education capacity have continued to emerge, fueled by widespread perceptions among observers that there are not enough lawyers and legal professionals in the region. This led directly to the study resolutions that formed the basis of the RFP.

1. The purpose of the study was not because the Caddo Parish Commission and the region felt we lacked lawyers in the area. The purpose and goal of this effort was to increase professional and graduate degree offerings in the urban center of North Louisiana region that is significantly deprived of graduate and professional degrees programs starting with legal education. We also note that NCHEMS limited the geographic reach of the region to just Shreveport and Bossier. However, we know from previous market studies that our region covers significant parts of East Texas, South Arkansas, Central Louisiana, and the Mississippi Delta.
2. Throughout the report NCHEMS mentions standards and the regulations of the American Bar Association (ABA). These mentions in our view are assumptions as the report provides no cited sources. Based on the appendix of interviewees, NCHEMS did not interview anyone from the ABA for this particular study. We believe any mention of ABA standards or regulations should be verified and sourced for accuracy as it related to this particular endeavor.
3. **Recommendation #1 Create a branch of Southern University Law Center (SULC) in Shreveport designed explicitly to serve the Shreveport/Bossier region with a cost of**

\$11,000,000 for capital improvements. Given the fiscal climate of the state budget, we believe this is a non-starter. On April 4, 2019 Parish officials (Dr. Woody Wilson, Erica Bryant, Donna Fraizer, Commission President Stormy Gage-Watts, and Commissioner Steven Jackson), had phone conference with Barry Currier of the ABA along with President Dr. Ray Belton of Southern University System, and Chancellor John Pierre of SULC in September 2019. Mr. Currier noted that SULC can start offering courses immediately without ABA approval up to 18 hours. Students could either start or finish law school here. The consensus was that proposed law schools start out small and scale up over a period of 3-4 years. This would be a satellite site under the leadership of a Dean or campus director. Not an independent school of the system. Additionally, NCHEMS did not give serious consideration to several locations that can be made available, including but not limited to the Shreve Memorial Downtown Library (SML) space as well as existing space in the Downtown SU Metro Campus. Use of either would greatly reduce the suggest \$11,000,000 for acquiring property and construction. Out fitting existing space will not cost \$11,000,000. It is important to note, that the City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo owns the physical space 50/50 of the downtown SML and is willing to provide this space free to Southern University System for this endeavor. The SML staff and board has also committed to helping with cost of making space available for SULC as well as updating their existing law library currently at SML. NCHEMS did not interview the Shreve Memorial Library Director or board members NCHEM did not tour either facility.

For these reasons, we object to this recommendation. We ask that serious consideration be given to the use of the Downtown Shreve Memorial Library Space or existing SU Metro Space and that \$11 million in capital cost be rejected. Additionally, we ask that Southern University move forward with a part-time and executive law program that is tailored toward working professionals over the course of 3-4 years.

4. **Recommendation #2: Physically relocate SULC from its current location in Baton Rouge to Shreveport.** This recommendation is offensive and an attempt to disrupt progress on this issue. We would NEVER suggest or support moving SULC from its current Baton Rouge location. Such an idea has no regard for the 1947 lawsuit by Charles Hatfield III that established SULC, A. A. Lenior the founding chancellor of SULC, Jessie Stone who was the apart of the founding class and Shreveport native, and thousands of SULC graduates. It would also have a negative effect on the Baton Rouge economy as SULC provides numerous jobs and community clinics for the area. To increase sports activity in our region, would anyone seriously recommend and support moving the Superdome from New Orleans or Tiger Stadium from Baton Rouge? We have always advocated for a satellite, part-time, non-traditional campus to operate in Shreveport.

For these reasons, we strongly object to this recommendation. We ask that Southern University move forward with a part-time and executive law program that is tailored toward working professionals over the course of 3-4 years.

5. NCHEM calculation of tuition at \$25,000 annually is highly inflated compared to SULC's current fee structure for full and part-time students. We have always advocated for Part-time non-traditional law school which brings both the cost to operate and the cost of tuition down.

We object to this finding. We ask that Southern University System and Southern University Law Center be given a fair opportunity to develop a proposed fee schedule based on the model they believe would best serve this region.

DRAFT