

CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
505 TRAVIS STREET, GOVERNMENT PLAZA
PUBLIC NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
(virtual)
July 8th, 2020
12:30 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:

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Citizens who wish to address the Committee, please fill out a comment card by clicking [HERE](#) and submit to the Commission Clerk's Office. Individual comments are limited to 3 minutes and will be read aloud during the Public Comments section of this agenda. Citizens may also address the Committee by calling the Commission Clerk's Office at (318) 226-6596 during the Public Comments section of this agenda.

5. Visitors

- 5.I. Declaration Of Independence Recital
Ken Krefft by pre-recorded video
(Commissioner Chavez)

6. NEW BUSINESS:

6.I. Certificate For Teleconference 07.08.20

Documents:

[CERTIFICATE FOR TELECONFERENCE 07.08.20.PDF](#)

- 6.II. Authorize Introduction Of Ordinance No. 5962 Of 2020
AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE MANDATING MASKS OR FACIAL COVERING IN

CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC PLACES; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF SAME, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

(Commissioner Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson & Young)

Documents:

[ORD NO. 5962 OF 2020- COVID MASK MANDATE - FINAL.PDF](#)

6.III. Authorize Introduction Of Resolution No. 56 Of 2020

A RESOLUTION ENACTING A COVID 19 THREAT LEVEL SYSTEM WITHIN CADDO PARISH AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO
(Commissioner Johnson)

Documents:

[RES NO. 56 OF 2020- CADDO PARISH COVID THREAT SYSTEM.PDF](#)

7. 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.

**CERTIFICATE OF NEED TO TELECONFERENCE AND/OR VIDEO
CONFERENCE THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
SPECIAL SESSION OF JULY 8th, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has issued Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2020, stating that, due to the current Public Health emergency declared in the Governor's Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020, and citing the provisions of La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, granting him the authority to control the "ingress and egress to and from a disaster, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor, in Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2020, has limited all gatherings of 10 or more people, for public safety purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Governor has issued a general stay at home order "unless performing an essential activity," 33 JBE 2020, Section 3; and,

WHEREAS, attendance at a Caddo Parish Commission Regular Session meeting is not stated in the list of essential activities, listed in 33 JBE 2020, Section 3; and,

WHEREAS, the usual conduct of the meeting would require travel and the presence of a number of persons in excess of ten (10); and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State, in Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020, Section 4, issued on March 16, 2020, has invoked the aforementioned statutes authorizing him to allow attendance at essential governmental meetings via teleconference or video conference during the pendency of this emergency; and,

THEREFORE, the Caddo Parish Commission hereby certifies that it will not be able to obtain a quorum and convene a meeting in a public forum on July 8, 2020 due to the Governor's proclamations, and will be required to meet by video conference, and, if necessary teleconference, on that date as allowed by law and the Proclamations of the Governor listed above.

Date: July 7th, 2020



Mario Chavez
Caddo Parish Commission President

ORDINANCE NO. 5962 of 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE MANDATING MASKS OR FACIAL COVERING IN CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC PLACES; TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF SAME, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the **SARS-CoV-2** virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19 under Section 391 of the Public Health Service Act;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana, following consultation with public health authorities, declared a state of public health emergency on March 11, 2020 and has renewed that state of public health emergency on April 2, 2020; April 30, 2020; May 14, 2020; June 4, 2020; and June 25, 2020;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 disease is spread by microdroplets of saliva and mucus containing viral particiles;

WHEREAS, the best advice of medical and healthcare experts on reducing the spread of the COVID-19 disease is use of face masks or other face coverings and social distancing;

WHEREAS, the incidence of the disease has significantly increased in recent weeks;

WHEREAS, the state-wide seven day rolling average of new cases is 1,284 and trending upward;

WHEREAS, hospitalization rates and ventilator usage rates are again trending up with over 200 hospitalizations daily;

WHEREAS, members of the public have increasing been seen in public places not wearing masks;

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter provides that, to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or public safety, the Parish Commission may adopt an emergency ordinance at the meeting at which it is introduced;

WHEREAS, stopping the upward trend of increased infections, hospitalization, and deaths is critically important for the health and welfare of the residents of Caddo Parish;

WHEREAS, adoption of this ordinance as an emergency ordinance is warranted due to the recent increases in new cases and hospitalizations;

WHEREAS, improving the rate of mask wearing is essential to avoiding a return to a stay-home order and the devastating impact that would have on the local economy and property of Caddo Parish residents; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission believes that requiring use of masks or appropriate facial coverings in public places will increase the usage of masks and facial coverings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal emergency session convened, that it adopts the following emergency ordinance:

A. Businesses and Establishments - Facial Coverings Required .

Facial coverings shall be worn by all persons, other than those specifically exempted herein, while obtaining any good or service or otherwise visiting or working in any business or establishment, including entering, exiting, and otherwise moving around within the establishment. Businesses or establishments of any type, including but not limited to, those permitted to operate under Executive Order of the Governor are subject to this provision. Such businesses and establishments include, but are not limited to, restaurants, retail establishments, hotels, grocery stores, gyms, pharmacies, indoor recreational facilities, and vehicles for hire.

B. Public Places - Facial Coverings Required.

Facial coverings shall be worn by all persons in public places where social distancing in accordance with Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) guidelines is not possible or not being practiced . For purposes of this provision, public places shall include any outdoor areas that are open and regularly accessible, including, but not limited to, common areas within private communities accessible to more than one housing unit. This requirement shall only apply when ten (10) or more individuals are gathered and the minimum distance of six (6) feet provided in the CDC guidelines is not being maintained.

C. Governmental Facilities - Facial Coverings Required.

All persons accessing governmental buildings under the jurisdiction of the Parish of Caddo or administered by the Parish of Caddo for the purposes of conducting public business, visitation, contracting and maintenance, delivery, or any other activity requiring a presence in a governmental building under the jurisdiction of the Parish of Caddo or administered by the Parish of Caddo shall wear facial coverings as defined by the CDC at all times while present in the building unless otherwise exempted below. For purposes of this section, governmental buildings shall mean any Caddo Parish owned and operated buildings including, but not limited to, office buildings, parish facilities, and court or justice facilities.

D. Exemptions - Facial Coverings Not Required.

Facial coverings are not required for the following persons:

1. Children under two (2) years of age and any child while under the custody of a licensed childcare facility, including daycare centers;
2. Persons prohibited from wearing facial coverings by Federal or State safety or health regulations;
3. Public safety, fire, or other life safety personnel that have personal protective equipment requirements governed by their respective agencies;
4. Individuals while actively engaged in exercise and maintaining social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines;
5. Persons receiving goods or services from a business or establishment for the such as, but not limited to, consuming food or beverage or receiving grooming or other treatment;
6. Persons who have a medical condition that makes the wearing of a facial covering unsafe such as, but not limited to, asthma, COPD, other conditions that reduce breathing or lung capacity;
7. Persons for whom wearing a facial covering conflicts with their religious beliefs or practices;
8. Persons who are alone in individual office or business spaces such that no person is within six (6) feet more than momentarily;
9. Persons in outdoor or unenclosed areas adjacent or appurtenant to businesses, establishments, public places, or governmental facilities while social distancing of at least six (6) feet is possible and being observed;
10. Persons while exclusively with members of their family or household and no person other than such family or household member is within the same enclosed area; and
11. Facial coverings may be removed temporarily while assisting persons who are hearing impaired or who rely on reading lips in order to communicate.

E. Facial Coverings.

A facial covering includes any covering which snugly covers the nose and mouth, whether store bought or homemade, mask or clothing covering including but not limited to, a scarf, bandana, handkerchief, or other similar cloth covering and which is secured in place. Examples of compliant homemade facial coverings may be found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-clothface-coverings.html> Persons wearing face coverings should review the CDC and Louisiana Department of Health guidelines regarding safely wearing, removing, and cleaning facial coverings. In addition, in lieu of a facial covering as defined in this section, persons may wear clear, plastic face shields, consisting of a piece of rigid, clear plastic attached to a headband that extends below the chin, whether store bought or homemade. For persons who are unable to safely utilize face coverings, businesses shall offer reasonable accommodation when required by the Americans with Disabilities Act which may include, but is not limited to, offering curbside service or any other reasonable accommodation.

E. Compliance:

- 1) All businesses and establishments as provided for in Section A of this Ordinance shall ensure compliance with the provisions of this Order and shall

establish a process for verification of compliance upon customer entry into the establishment. Businesses and establishments shall make masks or facial coverings available to individuals entering if they do not already have a mask or facial covering.

2) Businesses or establishments shall inform each individual who is not wearing a mask or facial covering of the requirement that they wear a mask or facial covering and that they may be directed to leave the premises if they fail to do so. Businesses or establishments shall direct individuals not complying with this requirement and who are not exempt therefrom shall be directed to promptly leave the business or establishment. Failing to leave when directed in compliance with this ordinance shall be considered remaining on the premises after being forbidden to do so under La.R.S. 63.3 unless that individual is exempt from the application of the trespass statutes.

3) A failure to establish and ensure such compliance shall be considered a violation of this ordinance punishable as a violation of any other ordinance of the Parish under Sec. 1-8 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances or as otherwise provided by law subject to the provisions of Section G below.

F. Signage: All businesses and establishments as provided for in Section A of this Ordinance shall conspicuously post signage as follows:

1. The required signage shall inform individuals that they are not to enter the business or establishment unless they are wearing a mask or facial covering in compliance with this Ordinance or unless exempted by the provisions of this Ordinance.
2. The required signage shall inform individuals that a mask or facial covering will be provided them if they do not have one.
3. The required signage shall inform individuals that they may be directed to leave the business, establishment, public place, or governmental facility if they do not comply with the mask or facial covering requirement.
4. **Signage required in must be at least 8 ½" x 11" in size and printed in color if possible.**

G. Enforcement:

The Sheriff of Caddo Parish, and any other personnel authorized by law, are authorized to enforce this Order. Compliance and enforcement processes shall include the provision of a warning and opportunity to correct before citations resulting in fines are issued. If a responsible person fails to comply with this emergency ordinance after warning and opportunity to correct, the responsible person shall be subject to the following penalties:

- a. The penalty for a first violation of this emergency ordinance shall be not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for the first violation and
- b. The penalty for each additional violation shall be five hundred dollars (\$500). Each incident of a continuing violation shall be deemed a separate additional violation.

H. Responsible Person:

With respect to an businesses or establishments under this emergency ordinance, a responsible person means any individual associated with the business or establishment who has the authority and ability to enforce the requirements of the Ordinance within the business or establishment, such as an owner, manager, or supervisor. A responsible person may also include an employee or other designee that is present at the business or establishment but does not have the title of manager or supervisor, but who has the temporary or designated authority and ability to ensure that the requirements of this emergency ordinance are met while the business or establishment is open to the public.

I. Violations: Revocation of Permits and Licenses. In addition to the penalties established by this emergency ordinance, repeated violations of this Ordinance by a Responsible Person by failing to require employees of the Establishment to wear a mask or facial covering may, subject to all procedural protections set forth in the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances, result in the suspension or revocation of any occupancy permit or business license issued to business where the repeated violations occurred.

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 this emergency ordinance shall be effective for thirty (30) days from the date of 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 56 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION ENACTING A COVID19 THREAT LEVEL SYSTEM WITHIN CADDO PARISH AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is experiencing a significant and uncontrolled level of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it has been shown that measures such as wearing masks and social distancing limit the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo would like to issue additional guidance to its citizens in order to highlight the seriousness of the significant and uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 within the Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened that the Caddo Parish Commission hereby enacts the following threat level guidance with regard to COVID-19:

THREAT LEVELS

The Caddo Parish COVID-19 Threat Level system advises four levels of transmission: Level 1 severe (red), Level 2 significant (orange), Level 3 moderate (yellow), and Level 4 minimal (green). Along with the level of transmission are actions residents should follow: Stay home, (red); minimize all contacts (orange); stay vigilant (yellow); and resume normal contacts (green).

Level 1: Stay Home (Current Level)

Level one signifies a severe and uncontrolled level of COVID-19 in Caddo Parish, meaning **OUTBREAKS ARE PRESENT AND WORSENING** and that testing and contact tracing capacity is strained or exceeded. At this level, residents take action to **minimize contacts with others wherever possible and avoid leaving home except for the most essential needs** like going to the grocery store for food and getting medicine.

Face coverings are **considered mandatory** in public except for the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside;
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver;

- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk;
- While pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment;
- While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks; or
- When consuming food or drink.

Level 2: Minimize ALL Contacts

Level two signifies **A SIGNIFICANT AND UNCONTROLLED** level of COVID-19 in Caddo Parish, meaning that there is ongoing transmission of the virus and that testing and contact tracing capacity is likely sufficient to meet demand. At this level, residents should **minimize contact with others, avoiding any medium or large gatherings and only visiting permissible businesses that follow public health guidance.**

Face coverings are **considered mandatory** in public except for the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside;
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver;
- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk;
- While pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment;
- While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks; or
- When consuming food or drink.

Level 3: Stay Vigilant

Level three signifies **a MODERATE, BUT CONTROLLED** level of COVID-19 in Caddo Parish, meaning a demonstrated reduction in transmission and the local healthcare system is within capacity. Residents **should remain vigilant**, but resume contact with others and resume leaving home.

Face coverings are **encouraged** in public

Level 4: Resume Normal Activity

Level four signifies a **MINIMAL AND CONTROLLED** level of COVID-19 in Caddo Parish, meaning new chains of transmission are limited and quickly broken or a vaccine and/or treatment has been developed and widely deployed. At this level, residents **may resume normal contact** with others unless sick.

Face coverings are **optional** in public

Please note that face coverings are a secondary strategy to other mitigation efforts. Face coverings are not a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation when sick. All people should follow CDC recommendations for how to wear and take off a mask.

Residents should keep up the following habits while in public:

- washing hands before you leave home and when you return;
- staying at least six feet away from others;
- avoiding touching nose or face;
- not using disposable masks more than three times; and
- washing reusable cloth masks regularly to prevent the spread of the virus.

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

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

Approved as to legal form:

Parish Attorney

Date