

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 3RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2019

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 Dominick, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). ABSENT: None (0).

The invocation was given by Mrs. Gage-Watts, and Mr. Middleton, led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SELECTION OF 2019 CADDO COMMISSION OFFICERS

Mr. Dominick stated it is now time to select Caddo Commission Officers for the 2019 year.

At this time, Mr. Dominick opened the floor up for nominations for President of the Caddo Parish Commission.

It was **moved by Mr. Middleton**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *to nominate Mrs. Gage-Watts for the 2019 Caddo Parish Commission President.*

Substitute motion by Mr. Linn, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *to nominate Mr. Lynn D. Cawthorne for the 2019 Caddo Parish Commission President.* At this time, Motion failed, as shown by the following AYE votes: Commissioners Cawthorne, Louis Johnson, and Linn (3).

At this time, Mr. Middleton's motion carried, as shown by the following AYE votes: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Middleton, and Smith (7).

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to nominate Mr. Chavez for the 2019 Caddo Parish Commission Vice-President.*

Mr. Chavez read aloud the following statement:

First off, I want to thank you for the opportunity you granted me this previous year to serve as your parliamentarian. I hope I served you proud and managed my duties respectfully as a proficient as you would have wanted me to. I would never ask for a position unless I felt I was ready. Last year, before I asked for your faith in me as parliamentarian I took the 6 hour course to complete the training needed to be certified in parliamentary procedure. Now I come to you respectfully asking for your faith in me to serve as your vice president. There was not a course or class I could attend to prepare for this position however; I feel I am adequately ready to serve this commission body proud. Please consider me today when the time comes to appoint our 2019 officers.

*Respectfully,
/s/ Mario C. Chavez*

At this time, Mr. Dominick's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (10).

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to nominate Mr. Bowman for the 2019 Caddo Parish Commission Parliamentarian.* Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (10).

At this time, the newly elected officers took their seats.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. John Settle congratulated the new officers for the Caddo Parish Commission. He also stated that he supported Mr. Linn's comments during the Work Session regarding Ordinance No. 5842. Mr. Settle said that he has an issue supporting this for-profit event. He also agreed with the comments made yesterday regarding the houses in the Queensborough neighborhood. Mr. Settle then talked about Ordinance No. 5847 regarding Cedar Grove CDC. He said that the Secretary of State's website shows that Cedar Grove CDC is not in good standing. He also Googled Cedar Grove CDC to find a tax return from 2013, which shows Mr. Jackson as a "key player" and reserves of \$5,000. He is also in opposition of Ordinance No. 5848 regarding Grace Community. The Secretary of State's website shows LMG (Love, Mercy, Grace) as inactive. He said that there is no backup showing where the \$15,000 will be sent.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES DECEMBER 6, 2018

It was **moved by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, to *adopt the Regular Session Minutes from December 6, 2018. Motion carried.*

ADOPT SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES DECEMBER 4, 2018

It was **moved by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Louis Johnson, to *adopt Special Session Minutes—2019 Budget Adoption from December 4, 2018. Motion carried.*

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Mr. Scott Martinez
President, NLEP

Mr. Martinez congratulated the newly elected officers and thanked the previous officers for their service.

Mr. Martinez then explained that the Caddo Commission has had a contract with NLEP for the past three years that included an NLEP staff person dedicated to Caddo initiatives. He also said that all of the feedback he has received over the years has been nothing but positive. Mrs. Dudley has worked diligently to promote Caddo Parish on Ward II initiatives to attending several economic development meetings, including after she left employment with NLEP. He also pointed out that economic development goes beyond a phone call. He said that the phone call is just the beginning. Mr. Martinez said that NLEP aggressively markets north Louisiana. He also said that NLEP has a reputation nationally and statewide of being one of the best. He provided the Commissioners with a copy of the contract with NLEP and the Caddo Parish Commission. Mr. Martinez also said that he could have done a better job with communication between NLEP and Caddo.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson thanked Mr. Martinez for his update. He pointed out that the Commission has two agreements with NLEP—one with the Economic Development person and the other with NLEP. He explained the reason for his legislation on the Work Session is that he asked for the service agreement and how the funds were used; the answer he received was that NLEP should not have to provide that information. He pointed out that the funding is the taxpayers' money, and he felt that they should know how those funds were spent.

Mr. Martinez said that his reservation with those requests had to do with the personnel piece. He explained that he did not want to provide personnel information for an NLEP employee because it could open him up to legal issues. He can provide hard costs for the funding, which comes to a total of \$116,000. Mr. Martinez apologized for the miscommunication.

Answering a question from Mr. Jackson regarding the funding for NLEP, Dr. Wilson explained that the Parish was contributing \$75,000 for the 15-parish region. When the dedicated Economic Development Person was hired for Caddo Parish, the Commission only contributed \$50,000 and funded the position \$125,000. Dr. Wilson said that the \$50,000 is for a regional effort for economic development. He also pointed out that the \$125,000 was a dedicated Caddo Parish Economic Development Person. If that position is no longer filled, then Caddo Parish will have to compete with 14 other parishes for resources within NLEP.

Answering another question from Mr. Jackson regarding other parishes with a dedicated staff person, Mr. Martinez stated that there is not another parish with one. Mr. Martinez also explained that the "genesis" for the dedicated staff person came about after the conversations regarding SEDA. He said that the Commission thought it would be more cost effective for a dedicated staff person to utilize NLEP's resources with a focus on Caddo Parish rather than forming a separate committee and funding it \$500,000. He also said that NLEP's focus for 2019 is a localized regionalist—with a focus group for rural areas, northwest and northeast.

Mr. Louis Johnson thanked Mr. Martinez for sharing this information. He said that he has great respect for NLEP and the need for the organization. He also pointed out that the breakdown in communication can be better.

Answering a question from Mr. Linn regarding the funding amount for the other parishes in the NLEP region, Mr. Martinez stated that the other parishes do not contribute \$50,000 but they do contribute funding. Mr. Linn would like to know the amounts each parish contributes to NLEP.

Mr. Atkins explained that the Commission has a two-tier relationship with NLEP—one with this baseload support work, which includes regional workforce development and job training, and the second with an economic development person who was dedicated to Caddo Parish.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that Ms. Zazelle Dudley did an excellent job representing Caddo Parish. She agreed that there are several concerns and questions that need to be addressed.

- Ms. Lakisha Russell-Coleman
Home Federal Bank

Ms. Russell-Coleman has been a loan officer for several years, and often times her clients need help with down payments. She researched down payment assistance program and offered them to her clients. As she researched the down payment assistant programs, she came across CAFA. She contacted them and asked if they were in this area; they told her no.

She introduced Ms. Kristen Delahasey, CAFA. She provided the Commission with literature regarding the company. CAFA is a local finance authority located in a nine-parish region. She also explained that it is not just for low-income or first time homebuyers, anyone who qualifies could use the program. If they receive any fees from the lender, those fees are split 50/50 with the Parish.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that the Commission created a housing trust to rid the parish of some of the blight and provide sustainable neighborhoods with homeowners. Ms. Delahasey said that their mission is very much aligned with the Commission's: "we want to put people in homes".

Mr. Chavez stated that he does not want to make money off the citizens wanting to be homeowners. He suggested to instead cutting their fee in half so the citizens pay less. Ms. Delahasey said that would be a question her CEO would have to answer.

Mr. Cawthorne wanted to know the relationship between the Commission and CAFA. Dr. Wilson stated that it was "turnkey", and the Commission would just need to authorize CAFA to come into this parish. Answering a question from Mr. Cawthorne regarding the funding source for CAFA, Ms. Delahasey explained that they are self-sufficient.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson wanted to know if there was any cost to the Parish. Ms. Delahasey stated that there was not. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson requested that this be put on the next Work Session agenda. Mr. Atkins stated that he supports Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson's proposal.

Mr. Louis Johnson, Mr. Bowman, and Mrs. Gage-Watts all thanked CAFA and Home Federal Bank for coming before the Commission to present this program.

- Mr. Kelly Wells
Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission

Mr. Wells came to the Commission to discuss an opportunity that came before Sports Commission recently. He also explained the promoters for the event came to Shreveport-Bossier and looked at the casinos. The only issue with the venues at the casinos is that the ceilings were not high enough for the event. Mr. Wells then got in touch with Ms. Shelly Raigel regarding StageWorks. He said that they signed off on it, and the event will be held there Friday, January 11. Mr. Wells said that Showtime will be filming the event. He provided the Commissioners with an estimated economic impact for this event.

Mr. Wells announced that Mr. Devin Haney and Xolisani Ndongeni will be the headliner for this event. There will be several fighters. Mr. Wells believes this will be an incredible event, and it will showcase Shreveport-Bossier Caddo.

He also pointed out that Showtime will be flying in about 40 staff members, and Devin Haney will be flying in about 30 people.

Mr. Atkins pointed out that the business sales for the event is estimated to be over \$1M. He also said that the estimated direct tax receipts are \$39,483 with DMO Hosting Costs estimated to be \$38,000. The total return on investment is estimated to be \$6,007. Mr. Atkins believes that this project "makes economic sense" and is a supportable project.

Mr. Bowman thanked Mr. Wells for coming to the Commission and providing an economic impact on this boxing event. Mr. Wells also pointed out that Showtime will be filming the event, and it will be hosted at StageWorks. Mr. Bowman asked where tickets could be purchased. Mr. Wells said that they could be purchased through the website or at the box office.

Mr. Bowman stated that he is excited that StageWorks is finally being used after being vacant for so long. Mr. Chavez thanked Mr. Wells for all of his hard work in making this event come into fruition and utilizing a space that has not been used in a long time. He will be supporting this event.

Mr. Louis Johnson pointed out that Mr. Wells and the Sports Commission has been instrumental in bringing events to Caddo Parish and in his district without coming before the Commission. He applauded him and the Sports Commission for all of their hard work.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if Showtime would be applying for the tax credits. Mr. Wells stated that they were not.

Mr. Jackson asked for more clarification on the Net Direct Local Tax ROI. Mr. Wells explained that the economic impact study is based off the local and state taxes to calculate a more accurate estimate. They are estimating 2,500 paid attendees for the event. Mr. Jackson commended the Sports Commission for utilizing StageWorks. He said that this facility could be retrofitted for other events, such as indoor basketball, hockey, etc.

Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed with Mr. Jackson and Mr. Bowman on utilizing StageWorks for this event. She said that Shreveport/Caddo needs to support the events that come to town, so there are not any “one and done” events.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson said there are several events that come through the Sports Commission. He said that this is another opportunity for “Shreveport to shine”. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson said that this event will put people in the hotels, therefore, increasing the revenues for the hotel/motel tax. He will be supporting this event.

Mr. Wells said that one of their main initiatives for 2019 is to tie events into already established festivals, i.e. the Strongman Competition with Mudbug Madness.

Mr. Cawthorne suggested to focus on the weekend travelers and bring in events around the weekends to keep visitors here for the weekend.

- Dr. Wilson thanked the previous officers for their service. He also congratulated the new officers on their newly appointed positions.

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Dominick thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to serve as an officer for the past several years. He also congratulated the newly appointed officers.

- Mr. Chavez commended Dr. Wilson and Public Works for posting sandbag pickup locations on the Caddo Parish website. Mr. Robert Glass, Public Works, stated that citizens could pick up sandbags at 1701 Monty Street, Shreveport or 11928 Springridge Road, Keithville until 5:00 p.m. Mr. Chavez said that each citizen can obtain 20 sandbags. Mr. Glass said that they are not concerned with the Red River, but Wallace Lake is rising.

- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson also congratulated the newly appointed officers. He also said that his Facebook page and the Caddo Parish website will be an avenue for citizens to obtain information regarding the flooding and weather conditions.

- Mr. Middleton congratulated the newly appointed officers. He also thanked Mr. Dominick and Mr. Cawthorne for leading the Commission as President this past year.

- Mr. Bowman thanked the Commissioners for electing him as the Parliamentarian for 2019. He said that he is excited to serve in this capacity.

- Mr. Linn also congratulated the newly elected officers. Mr. Linn wanted to know if the sandbag machine was portable. Mr. Glass stated that it was, but it would be more efficient to bag the sandbags where the machine is currently located and distribute the bags where needed rather than moving the machine.

- Mr. Atkins also congratulated the newly elected officers. He also thanked the previous officers—Mr. Dominick, Mr. Cawthorne, and Mr. Chavez for their service this past year. Mr. Atkins reminded Mrs. Gage-Watts that he has already called an Economic Development Committee Meeting for January 7 at 1:30 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room on the 8th floor.

- Mr. Cawthorne congratulated the incoming officers. He thanked the previous officers for all of their hard work this past year.

- Mr. Louis Johnson congratulated the newly elected officers and thanked the previous officers.

- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson asked that Mr. Tim Weaver come forward and update the Commission on the current road closures. Mr. Weaver said that they are closing down Barron Road, Linwood, and the Southern Loop due to the flooding.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts thanked the Commissioners for appointing her to this position. She thanked Mr. Dominick, Mr. Cawthorne, and Mr. Chavez for all of their hard work this past year.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked if there was anyone to speak in support of or in opposition of the following ordinance:

- *Ordinance No. 5834 of 2018, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to reduce the appropriation for Riverboat revenues by \$100,000*

- *Ordinance No. 5838 of 2018, to enact Section 32-46.1 of the Code of Ordinances relative to Parish Buildings & Grounds to generally regulate activity and to prohibit certain acts on or about Parish buildings*

There being no one to speak in favor of or in opposition to the ordinance, the President closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *to englobo and adopt the following ordinances:*

- *Ordinance No. 5834 of 2018, amending the 2018 Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to reduce the appropriation for Riverboat revenues by \$100,000*
- *Ordinance No. 5838 of 2018, to enact Section 32-46.1 of the Code of Ordinances relative to Parish Buildings & Grounds to generally regulate activity and to prohibit certain acts on or about Parish buildings*

At this time, Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Linn (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5834 OF 2018

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2018 BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND TO REDUCE THE APPROPRIATION FOR RIVERBOAT REVENUES BY \$100,000

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission approved a budget of \$1,230,000 for Riverboat Gaming Revenues in its 2018 budget; and

WHEREAS, based on current collections through October 31, 2018, it appears the Riverboat Gaming Revenues will not meet the amount budgeted by \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, total estimated revenues in the Riverboat Fund are failing to meet total budgeted revenue by more than five percent; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to reduce the budget for Riverboat Gaming Revenues by \$100,000 to adequately reflect the actual amount that will be earned by December 31, 2018; and

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 Riverboat Fund for the year 2018 is hereby amended as follows:

| | <u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Riverboat Gaming Revenue | \$(100,000) |
| Fund Balance | \$(100,000) |

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.

ORDINANCE NO. 5838 OF 2018

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT SECTION 32-46.1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATIVE TO PARISH BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TO GENERALLY REGULATE ACTIVITY AND TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN ACTS ON OR ABOUT PARISH BUILDINGS, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish has several buildings which are the locations of activity for both the public and government;

WHEREAS, those buildings may become targets for disruptive or criminal activity which impede the execution of parish functions or threaten the safety and security of parish buildings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Section 32-46.1 of the Code of Ordinances is enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 32-46.1. – Parish Buildings – prohibited acts.

- (a) No persons, group or association shall use the grounds or steps of parish buildings for rallies, meetings, exhibits, or other gatherings without prior authorization of the director of the department of facilities and maintenance or designee of the parish administrator. Provided that prior authorization shall not be required for any person, group or association using the grounds or steps of Government Plaza with the approval or permission of the City of Shreveport.
- (b) The parish buildings and grounds are defined as any of the following:
 - (i) Frances P. Bickham Building being the building and grounds within the City of Shreveport located on Lots 1 and 2 of Block 32, City of Shreveport except any street rights-of-way, including sidewalks, belonging to or maintained by the City of Shreveport.
 - (ii) Government Plaza being the building and grounds within the City of Shreveport located on Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 of Block 22, City of Shreveport except any street rights-of-way, including sidewalks, belonging to or maintained by the City of Shreveport.
 - (iii) Juvenile Justice Complex being the buildings and grounds within the City of Shreveport located on a tract of land in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 18 North, Range 13 West as per Assessors City Plat 979, Tr. 53, being 4.627 Acres more or less.
- (c) No person shall possess or drink any alcoholic beverage in a parish building or on grounds thereof or remain on or in a parish building or on grounds thereof while in an intoxicated condition.
- (d) No person shall deliberately scatter or leave upon grounds of a parish building any paper, rags, bottles, cans, broken glass, garbage, offal or offensive matter.
- (e) No person shall void any excrement or urine in a parish building or on the grounds thereof unless that person is using a facility designed for that purpose such as a restroom or portable toilet.
- (f) No person shall cut, write upon, deface, defile or otherwise injure or destroy property of the parish.

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.

ZONING ORDINANCES (introduction by title)

- *Zoning Case P-35-18, in regards to Ordinance No. 5839 of 2019, amending the zoning of property located on the north side of Greenwood Road, approximately*

1,600 feet west of Broadacres Road, Caddo Parish, LA., from R-A, Rural Agricultural District, to I-1, Light Industrial District

ORDINANCES (introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 5842 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$8,000 to provide an appropriation for Showtime Boxing event*
- *Ordinance No. 5843 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund to cancel the \$125,000 appropriation for NLEP*
- *Ordinance No. 5847 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$5,000 to provide an appropriation for the Cedar Grove CDC*
- *Ordinance No. 5848 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund and the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$15,000 (\$10,000—ED and \$5,000—RB) to provide an appropriation for Grace Community*
- *Ordinance No. 5849 of 2019, to close and abandon a portion of a road dedication in Section 1, Township 16 North, Range 14 West, in the Parish of Caddo*

It was **moved by Mr. Linn**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that the Work Session Minutes from January 2, 2019 be approved. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Middleton**, seconded by Mr. Linn, *that Resolution No. 1 of 2018, to request the Legislature to accelerate the repaving of the Jimmie Davis Bridge be adopted.*

Mr. Jackson reminded the Commissioners that this is one example of the Commission requesting the Legislature to take action.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson said that the State has a priority list of repairs. He said that this list is already set, and it will not make a difference if the Commission sends in a request to the State.

Mr. Middleton pointed out that this was a priority a few years ago, and the funds have not been used. He said that there are about 40,000 vehicles crossing this bridge each day and feels that it needs to be repaired. Mr. Middleton explained that the City Council, Bossier Parish Police Jury, and Bossier City Council would also be submitting a resolution of support.

Mr. Atkins explained that he did not support items in the past that he did not understand because he could not make an educated vote on a topic with several moving parts. However, this is a simple example of a local project, and for that reason, I am comfortable voting on this issue, Mr. Atkins said.

Mr. Chavez stated that he would be supporting this issue. He also requested that a copy of this resolution be sent to each Legislator.

Mr. Dominick agreed with Mr. Atkins. He said that this is a local issue and will be supporting this resolution.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson stated that DOTD is pushing the I-220 Barksdale Interchange project for this area. The other projects are in south Louisiana. He said that Jimmie Davis Bridge is not a priority on that list.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if this has been identified as a priority with NLCOG. Dr. Wilson said that NLCOG has been giving the Jimmie Davis Bridge a priority for the past five years.

At this time, Mr. Middleton's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Dominick, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: Commissioner Lyndon B. Johnson (1). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 1 OF 2019

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE LEGISLATURE TO ACCELERATE THE REPAVING OF THE JIMMIE DAVIS BRIDGE, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Jimmie Davis Bridge on LA Hwy 511 is a major thoroughfare between Caddo and Bossier Parishes; and

WHEREAS, numerous ambulances and first responders transport critical care medical and trauma patients across the bridge to Shreveport, Caddo Parish hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the bridge is in disrepair and in need of repaving and upgrades to insure the optimum safety of citizens that travel across it; and

WHEREAS, repairs to the bridge have been planned for several years but have never materialized;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Caddo Parish Commission hereby urges and requests the Louisiana Legislature to accelerate the repaving and other necessary upgrades to the Jimmie Davis Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Speaker of the Louisiana House, the President of the Louisiana Senate and to the Louisiana Governor.

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.

It was **moved by Mr. Linn**, seconded by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, *that Resolution No. 2 of 2019, to authorize the Parish Administrator to terminate the contract with NLEP for a designated Caddo Parish Economic Development Person* be adopted.

Substitute motion by Mr. Middleton to delay Resolution No. 2 of 2019 until after the Economic Development Committee Meeting. Motion failed due the lack of a second.

Mr. Linn reiterated that it is important for the Commission to start with a "clean slate" regarding the contract. He believes that this contract needs to be terminated.

Mr. Atkins agreed with Mr. Linn. He said that without this resolution, the Commission could be legally obligated to continue with the contract. He will be in support of Resolution No. 2 of 2019. Mr. Bowman agreed with Mr. Linn and Mr. Atkins.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the contract was terminated today, would the Commission still be bound by the contract or would the Commission be preparing the 90-day notice. Attorney Frazier explained that the Commission would be preparing the 90-day notice before terminating the contract.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson pointed out that there are two different agreements with NLEP. He said that this resolution would terminate the contract with the Economic Development Person. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson believes that this would be the most opportune time to review the contract and updated to best suite Caddo Parish. Mrs. Gage-Watts agreed.

At this time, Mr. Linn's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Dominick (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 2 OF 2019

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO TERMINATE THE CONTRACT WITH NLEP FOR A DESIGNATED CADDO PARISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PERSON, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish currently pays \$125,000.00 per year to Northwest Louisiana Economic Partnership for a staff person dedicated to economic development in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the staff person initially filling that position has decided to pursue other opportunities not with NLEP; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission feels that the need has changed and that this \$125,000.00 may be better used at another place in the Parish's 2019 budget;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Caddo Parish Commission hereby authorizes the Parish Administrator to terminate the Parish Contract with NLEP for a designated Caddo Parish economic development staff member.

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.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Smith**, seconded by Mr. Middleton, *to confirm appointment of Mr. Greg Sims to the Caddo Parish Fire District No. 4 Board, to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Ron Lloyd, who has resigned (term to expire 12/4/2020)* be approved. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Dominick and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Chavez announced that the Youth Challenge Program is conducting an interview tomorrow, January 4 at 10:00 a.m. It will be held at the Shreve Memorial Library on Pines Road.

There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Stormy Gage-Watts
President

Todd Hopkins
Commission Clerk