

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 6th DAY OF MAY, 2019

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Work Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mrs. Gage-Watts, 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 Mr. Cawthorne, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Middleton.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- It was **moved by Mr. Middleton**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 37 of 2019, a resolution declaring 'National Mental Health Awareness Month' in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked if there was anyone to speak in favor or against this agenda addition. There was no one to speak in favor or against this agenda addition.

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, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Mr. Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 38 of 2019, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Legislature to adopt House Bill 335 regarding labeling of imported seafood and otherwise providing with respect thereto.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked if there was anyone to speak in favor or against this agenda addition. There was no one to speak in favor or against this agenda addition.

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

- It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 37 of 2019, a resolution declaring 'National Lupus Awareness Month' in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked if there was anyone to speak in favor or against this agenda addition. There was no one to speak in favor or against this agenda addition.

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

VISITORS

- Ms. Carolyn Tillman, Development Manager
Alzheimer's Association of Northwest Louisiana

Ms. Tillman, Development Manager, stated that they offer support groups, programs, information, and information provided to the public is free of charge. In Louisiana, there are 89,000 people living with Alzheimer's. It is also the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. Every sixty-five seconds, someone is diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Some behaviors Alzheimer's patients exhibit are: memory loss, they like to wander by water, and can get aggressive because the disease attacks the brain.

Mr. Cawthorne thanked Ms. Tillman for coming to the Commission today and bringing awareness to this community.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Kelvin Samuel, CPAS

Rabies Update

Mr. Samuel came before the Commission to provide an update on the rabies case in North Caddo Parish. Since the dog had a current rabies vaccination, he was only quarantined for 45 days; if he was not current on his vaccinations, he could have been quarantined for six months.

Mr. Samuel then cited LA Public Health—Sanitary Code, Title 51, Part III, Section 107. Domestic Animals Bitten by Rabid Animals, A. When bitten by a rabid animal, unvaccinated dogs, cats, or ferrets shall be destroyed immediately unless the owner is unwilling to have this done, in which case, the unvaccinated animal shall be confined (as describe in Section 113) for six months ant the animal shall be vaccinated one month before being released. Dogs, cats, or ferrets that are currently vaccinated shall be re-vaccinated immediately and confined for 45 days.

He also explained that Animal Services nor the Health Department goes out looking for rabid animals, but the skunk in this case was acting aggressive. He said that normally nocturnal animals lurking in the daylight could be out for a number of reasons like mating, nursing young, etc. Mr. Samuel cautioned to contact Animal Services if wild animals are acting strange.

Mr. Dominick applauded Animal Services for informing him and his district right away.

Mr. Linn asked for the breakdown of animals with rabies in Bossier, Caddo, and Desoto parishes. Mr. Samuels said from 1970 until present, there were 239 confirmed rabies cases in Bossier, Caddo, and Desoto parishes—Desoto 77, Caddo 119, and Desoto 43.

Mrs. Gage-Watts

- Dr. Wilson also announced that Assistant Parish Administrator, Randy Lucky, will be retiring on May 31, 2019.
- Dr. Wilson also made a formal request for the Registrar of Voters Office to come before the Commission to discuss satellite voting locations.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the Registrar of Voters was elected. Dr. Wilson stated that position is appointed by the Caddo Parish Commission.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Atkins announced that the Finance Committee will meet on Monday, May 20 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss current bond situation with the Parish.
- Mr. Dominick requested that Animal Services & Mosquito Control come before the Commission on Thursday to provide an update on spraying for mosquitoes.

Mr. Middleton suggested to post the schedule for mosquito spraying on the website or Facebook page.

- Mr. Chavez asked for more clarification for Agenda Additions. Attorney Frazier explained that when the President opens the floor for anyone in support of or opposition, she is asking the public if there is anyone who wishes to speak for or against adding an item on the agenda, not the content of the item. She also explained that a person could speak on the actual context of the item during public hearings for ordinances or citizens comments for resolutions.
- Mr. Bowman stated that his District 5 Town Hall meeting was a success. He thanked all those who helped out. He also wished Mrs. Gage-Watts a belated Happy Birthday.
- Mr. Cawthorne stated that the Economic Development Committee met today. Ms. Dana Cawthon, LSBDC Louisiana, was at the meeting to discuss bringing economic development opportunities to this Parish. The committee voted to provide funding to a program \$20,000 which allows business owners to take an eight week course to learn how to market, write a business plan, etc. He said that will be forthcoming to the full body.

Mr. Cawthorne also said the Ternium USA, Inc. came before the committee regarding their ITEP application. The committee voted to advance that application to the full body and will be forthcoming.

- Mr. Louis Johnson attended the MPC Master Plan Committee. He said that the new Chairperson for the Committee is Councilwoman Levette Fuller. He will provide further details regarding the meeting at Thursday's Regular Session.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Gage-Watts talked about the flood threats due to the impending weather. She said that the Caddo officials held a Weather Planning meeting this morning regarding the threat of potential weather that could affect our waterways. Sandbags are available now and can be picked up at the following two locations: 3825 Mansfield Road or 1501 Monty Street.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also signed an emergency declaration for the citizens of Caddo Parish. She urged the citizens to save all of their receipts if they are flooded. She suggested that valuables be put in Ziploc bags.

She announced that the Veterans Memorial Service will be held on Friday, May 24 at 11:00 a.m., Bill Cockrell Center. For any additional information, please contact Mr. Ken Epperson, Sr. at (318) 773-2654.

Mrs. Gage-Watts stated that Comcast has an internetessentials.com for low-income citizens for internet service at their house.

She also announced that a bus will provide a free ride down to Angola State Prison for those who need to visit their loved ones. It will be held on Saturday, May 11. For additional information, please call (318) 458-4229.

Mrs. Gage-Watts would like further discussions to be held regarding tornado sirens.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 5875 of 2019, to set the General Purpose Millages and Special Purpose Millages and to instruct the Tax Assessor to include said millages on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2019* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *to englobe and move the following ordinances to Thursday's agenda for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 5875 of 2019, to set the General Purpose Millages and Special Purpose Millages and to instruct the Tax Assessor to include said millages on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2019*
- *Ordinance No. 5876 of 2019, to adopt the values fixed, or to be fixed, by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public service corporations, and to instruct the assessor to extend such assessments and values on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2019*
- *Ordinance No. 5877 of 2019, setting the assessment of property classified as timberlands and to instruct the Assessor to include said assessment on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2019*
- *Ordinance No. 5878 of 2019, setting the Parish Millage for the purpose of paying principal and interest, due in 2019 on outstanding Parish Bond Issues and to instruct the Assessor to include said millage on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2019*

Mr. Linn wanted to know if the Parish was rolling forward or backwards on these millages. Mrs. Barnette stated that it will stay the same; it will not roll forward nor backward. Dr. Wilson stated that the Commission has not rolled forward in the past 20 years.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson stated that the millage is the maximum amount that the Commission could charge. He also noted that the Commission could always reduce it.

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Resolution No. 31 of 2019, to authorize the acceptance of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire* be moved to Thursday's agenda. 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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Bowman**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 32 of 2019, supporting the construction of the Center for Medical Education and Wellness on the LSU Health Shreveport Campus* be moved to Thursday's agenda. 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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Bowman, *that Resolution No. 33 of 2019, urging the Louisiana State Legislature to repeal state overreach into local control of worker protection policies* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

The Clerk of the Commission pointed out that there were technical changes made to the resolution. An updated version was given to the Commissioners.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson wanted to know what the technical changes were. Attorney Frazier stated that it is a duplicate resolution to the City Council, but with Caddo Parish Commission rather than City Council.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson asked for more clarification regarding the resolution. Mr. Jackson explained that this resolution gives each municipality the option to choose their minimum wage. Attorney Frazier further noted that the currently the State sets the minimum wage, so this ordinance would give the municipalities and parishes the right to choose their own minimum wage rate. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson pointed out that the federal government sets the minimum wage, and the states adopt it.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Bowman, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Louis Johnson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Linn, and Smith (9). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Dominick, and Middleton (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 34 of 2019, supporting the addition of Shreveport, Caddo Parish sites to the U.S. Civil Rights Trail* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Jackson stated that any Commissioner could add locations to this resolution, so as long as it pertains to the Civil Rights Movement.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson applauded the effort, but it might be early in nature. He explained that some of the buildings and locations are dilapidated and need to be restored.

Mr. Cawthorne wanted to know the process in which the buildings or sites are selected to be a part of the trail. Mr. Jackson is unsure of the process, but this is to submit the information to the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Mr. Atkins commended Mr. Jackson for putting this list together.

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Linn**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 35 of 2019, urging and requesting the President of the United States to not adopt an immigration policy which would result in the separation of children from their parents* be moved to Thursday's agenda. 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, and Smith (10). NAYS: Commissioners Dominick and Middleton (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0). *Mr. Bowman stated in the meeting that he would like his vote to reflect an "Aye".

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Middleton, *that Resolution No. 36 of 2019, declaring May 22, 2019 as National Maritime Day* be moved to Thursday's agenda. 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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 37 of 2019, a resolution declaring 'National Mental Health Awareness Month' in Caddo Parish, Louisiana* be moved to Thursday's agenda. 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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and move the following items to Thursday's agenda:*

- *Resolution No. 38 of 2019, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Legislature to adopt House Bill 335 regarding labeling of imported seafood and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 39 of 2019, a resolution declaring 'National Lupus Awareness Month' in Caddo Parish, Louisiana*
- *Appoint Mr. James Lacaze to the Ward II Industrial District Board, to replace Dr. Stephen Taylor. Unanimous vote to nominate by the Vivian Town Council on Monday, April 8, 2019.*
- *Appoint Mrs. Loraine Guerrero to the Caddo Parish Animal Service Board to replace Mr. John D. Brock whose appointment term expired. New term to expire January 1, 2023.*
- *Authorize Ms. Pam Atchison, SRAC Executive Director, as Visitor for Regular Session*

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson wanted to know what the SRAC presentation will be about. Mr. Chavez explained that it will be an update on the greenspace downtown.

Mr. Dominick asked for more clarification on Resolution No. 38 of 2019. Mr. Chavez stated that this would require restaurants to display where the seafood is came from. He also pointed out that this will be on the Senate floor. Mr. Dominick wanted to know if there would be any added costs to the restaurants. Mr. Chavez stated that it would cost a piece of paper.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson stated that this would cost the restaurant owners an additional expense because they would have to display on their menu where each piece of seafood came from. Mr. Chavez explained that was not correct. He further stated that the owner could add it on the menu, display it at the restaurant, or paperclip a piece of paper to the menus saying where the seafood came from. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson then argued that some restaurants get their seafood from more than one region. Mr. Chavez explained that this is only for shrimp and crawfish.

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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, Linn, Middleton, and Smith (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson discussed the flooding in Caddo Parish. He said that this is becoming a regular occurrence. One of the proposed solutions is for the Corps of Engineers to come in and dredge the Red River. The other proposed solution is to put another lock and dam in North Caddo Parish, but would then flood that area. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson said that there needs to be other solutions to prevent flooding in Caddo Parish. He pointed out that the rain from up north travels down and feeds the Red River which causes flooding in Caddo Parish.

Mr. Linn explained that Lake Texhoma is a primary feeder for the Red River. He stated that it is currently above its flood stage. He agreed that we need to look for a long term solution.

- Mr. Jackson requested that Administration have Mr. Kent Rogers come to the next Work Session for an NLCOG update.
- Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson requested that Administration provide an update on the Legislative Session once they are finished with the session.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 5868 of 2019, in regards to Zoning Case P-9-19, amending the zoning of property located at the three thousand eight hundred block of Old Mooringsport Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District to R-1-7, Single-Family Residential Zoning District*
- *Ordinance No. 5869 of 2019, amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund and the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$100,000 to provide an appropriation for a Law School Feasibility Study*
- *Ordinance No. 5871 of 2019, to amend Ordinance Nos. 5754, 5755, 5757, 5758, 5766, 5783, 5784, 5790, 5799, 5825, 5826, 5827, 5839, 5853, 5856, 5857, and 5861, relative to zoning matters and the Unified Development Code, by*

amending the reference to Uniform Development Code to read Unified Development Code wherever it appears, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 5872 of 2019, to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo*
- *Ordinance No. 5873 of 2019, to deem property surplus and authorize the sale of surplus property owned by the Parish of Caddo*
- *Ordinance No. 5874 of 2019, to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending Section 15.1 Code Text Amendment regarding the Amendment Process; by amending Section 16.2 Zoning Map Amendment regarding the Amendment Process; by amending Section 16.5 Administrative Exception to Zoning regarding Process and Standards; by amending Section 16.6 Site Plan Review regarding Process and Standards; by amending Article 16 Zoning Application Approval Processes to enact Section 16.11 Certificate of Occupancy*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

/s/ Todd A. Hopkins
Todd A. Hopkins
Commission Clerk