

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 21st DAY OF JANUARY, 2020

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, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). ABSENT: None (0).

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

VISITORS

Mr. Alan Clark, MPC Executive Director, came before the Commission to provide an update on the 2030 Master Plan.

Mr. Clark provided some background on what has transpired and where the MPC is now. The Louisiana Legislature passed legislation in July of 1954 regarding metropolitan planning limits. The former Chapter 54 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances was passed in 1974. The contract for the Great Expectations Master Plan was signed in April 2009.

In reference to the UDC, a contract was signed with a firm in 2013. The first public draft was available in 2015. Throughout this process, it has been a joint effort between the City of Shreveport and the Caddo Parish Commission. There was also a Master Plan Subcommittee formed, which consisted of three MPC board members, three City Council members, and two Caddo Parish Commissioners.

Mr. Clark also listed the public meetings which were held in regards to the UDC: May 18 (8870 Jefferson Paige Road), May 19 (Southern University—Shreveport), May 20 (Louisiana State University—Shreveport), May 21 (Community Foundation), and May 21 (Valencia Park Community Center). He said that this was an open and public process with community meetings, website interaction, etc.

Mr. Clark pointed out that the Master Plan and the UDC needs updating, and they are in the process of going back and reviewing both of them. He also mentioned that the UDC was originally drafted to be one unified document for the City of Shreveport and the Parish of Caddo, but due to recent concerns and feedback, they believe now that it may be more appropriate that the UDC in the city differ from the Parish. Mr. Clark also said that they are looking at holding more meetings with the public to get a better understanding of what the citizens' concerns are regarding the UDC. He also said that between 2010-2020, they have not done a good job vetting the Master Plan and the UDC. Mr. Clark also explained that the UDC has been amended over 200 times. He also suggested that the Commission allow them to update the body at each Work Session regarding the UDC and the Master Plan.

Mrs. Gage-Watts suggested placing a moratorium on the violations regarding the UDC while the Commission vets the code.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the UDC was the same outside the city limits as they are inside the city limits. Mr. Clark stated that they are very similar, not identical. He also explained that the "5-mile" planning limits are up to 5 miles, not necessarily 5 miles from the city limits of Shreveport.

Mr. Jackson explained that the Commission does not have the authority to repeal that 5-mile radius due to state statute. He also suggested that the constituents look to their State Representatives to change that legislation. He thanked Mr. Clark for his update to the Commission body.

Mr. Clark pointed out that this legislation has been in place since 1954 and has served the Parish well. He understands that the Parish and the City are different. He and the MPC are now familiarizing themselves with the Parish. He also said that they are open to meeting with the Caddo Alliance for Freedom (CAF), hearing their suggestions, and finding a common ground.

Mr. Johnson explained that the catalyst for the uproar regarding the UDC started with citations for recreational vehicles, i.e. boats, trailers, RVs, etc. parked in front of a residence. He said that the citizens outside of the city limits voiced their concerns, but this could still be an issue with the residents inside the city limits. Mr. Clark pointed out that the violations regarding recreational vehicles have been suspended inside and outside the city limits of Shreveport. They will be reviewing RVs, boat trailers, etc. inside and outside the city limits and bring back suggestions.

Mr. Burrell cautioned that there has been extensive research and work that went into the 5-mile radius at the state level.

Mr. Chavez asked for more clarification regarding the 5-mile radius. Attorney Frazier explained that the 5 miles is set by state statute and cannot be changed unless the statute is changed.

She also mentioned that it would have to come from the MPC prior to the Commission acting on it. She said that she will research it further.

Mr. Epperson wanted to know if the UDC affects the Town of Greenwood. Mr. Clark explained that this does not affect the inside limits of Blanchard Greenwood, only the unincorporated areas within the planning limits.

Mr. Atkins had questions regarding the 5-mile radius in southeast Shreveport. Mr. Clark explained that the MPC shall have jurisdiction up to 5 miles. He also explained that the 5-miles radius does not expand each time the City of Shreveport annexes property into the city limits.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- 2020 State of Louisiana Legislative Session

Dr. Wilson provided the Commissioners with a copy of the 2020 Legislative Priorities worksheet. He explained that Administration provides a copy of the priorities listed to the legislatures. He asked that the Commissioners return the worksheets to Administration at Thursday's Regular Session.

- December 2019 Monthly Financials

Dr. Wilson provided the Commissioners with the December 2019 Monthly Financials along with a copy of the adopted 2020 Budget book.

- Assistant Director of Facilities & Maintenance

Dr. Wilson introduced Mr. Maurice Carlson to the Commission as the Assistant Director of Facilities & Maintenance.

COMMISSION REMARKS

- Mr. Atkins recognized Mr. William C. Bradford and Mr. Marvin Muhammed who were in attendance today as candidates for the Industrial Development Board.

- Mr. Johnson advised that the arm for the parking lot on McNeil Street was not working correctly.

- Mr. Burrell requested that he be provided a clicker to let him in the Commission parking lot.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Gage-Watts gave the following statement:

On yesterday, many of us paused to pay homage to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a day of service, or reflecting on the vision he shared with the world through the famous I Have a Dream speech. There were parades and celebration and dancing and hopes to bring our communities together for a common goal of peace, equality, and justice. As I sat through a Senator's speech about how far we've come, or how we really have not come that far. I was challenged to think about the division as a human race, political subdivision, or even in our economic status has often clouded our beliefs and unfortunately, our leadership. Today is not a holiday, but today is another gift. It's another opportunity for us to evaluate ourselves, are we really doing what's right or are we using positions to be off to the next level? Have our core values kicked us to remind us the morals our grandmothers taught us? Are we unified, or we divided? Let us not just speak peace when is popular, but practices by ensuring there are safer streets in our parish, which is in our city. Let's not just praise the children who are overcoming the obstacles of life publicly, but let's fight for stricter gun laws and provide a better quality of life for them through additional funding for their education, instead of lobbying to build more prisons for them. Let us not have a humble tone about the man or woman at the courthouse cold grounds because they have no home, but let's put capital to their needs and provide a homeless shelter for those who live in their conditions. There are single mothers who replay their last moments with their child because they lost them in a traffic stop, and fathers who replay the gavel slam of their child they lost in a courtroom. Not to mention far too many children are living in cages at borders, and the women who work just as hard as men, but are only receiving half of their pay. We are still fighting for our rights to vote, fighting to stop purging voter rolls and, ultimately, fighting for those who are trying to block early voting locations. We stand on broad shoulders, and I am proud of where we are and where we have come from. Bold enough to say and ambitious enough to fight for where I believe all people should thrive and not merely survive, and that we all deserve that. Each of us, as servants, have pledged our lives to serve all mankind, and we should that whole heartedly because it's the right thing to do for we want to be great. Dr. King says, 'Greatness is determined by service'. As I close with another quote of Dr. King, 'Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?'

OLD BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Special Resolution of Recognition to Lowder Baking Company, 2020 King Cake recognition* be postponed to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 6 of 2020, a resolution to relocate polling place for Precinct Nos. 88, 114, 133, and 163 from Calvary United Pentecostal Church, 6811 Woolworth Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71129 to Walnut Hill Elementary Middle School, 9360 Woolworth Road, Shreveport, Louisiana 71129, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Epperson

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Resolution No. 7 of 2020, a resolution to recognize the 70th anniversary of Booker T. Washington High School, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, *to request LADOTD to perform a traffic study at the intersection of LA 1 North and MLK for left turn going north* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Jackson pointed out that it should say, "traffic study" not "market study".

Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know if it would be feasible to add another intersection in this request. Dr. Wilson pointed out that this is a state request.

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson would also like to be added as a co-sponsor to the legislation since the turn is going into District 2.

Mr. Jackson would like whereas statements added to the legislation on Thursday's agenda. Attorney Frazier stated that would need to be done in the form of a resolution on a different agenda.

Mr. Jackson also requested a copy of the city's study on this particular intersection. Mr. Tim Weaver explained that they sent a request to DOTD, but DOTD informed them that the request would need to go to the City due to the City maintaining that particular traffic light. He also said that they did receive an informal traffic study from the City and will forward that to Mr. Jackson. Mr. Weaver reiterated that this request needs to go to the City of Shreveport.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if this would cost the Commission any money. Dr. Wilson does not believe that the Commission would receive a bill.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if the Commission could purchase the turn signal and go to the City to install. Dr. Wilson cautioned that DOTD has to concur since it is a state road.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know who would approve this request. Mr. Weaver explained that it would be the City of Shreveport who approves the turn signal. Mr. Johnson wanted to know why the request is being sent to LADOTD rather than the City of Shreveport. He pointed out that the turn lane is already there, only a turn signal needs to be installed.

Mr. Johnson also said that he has made a request regarding this particular intersection in the past. He said that the city engineer explained that there were no deaths at that light, even though there has been several accidents.

Attorney Frazier pointed out who can enter into an agreement with the Parish regarding who is going to install a traffic light and who is going to conduct a traffic study will be different. She also mentioned that if something happens at that intersection, the State and the City would be sued, so she will research this further.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to authorize appointment of Ms. Laura Neubert to the Metropolitan Planning Commission, term to expire January 1, 2026*, be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Substitute motion by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Ms. Laura Neubert and Ms. Lasonya Moore be considered as candidates for the MPC board.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts provided a copy of her resume to all of the Commissioners.

Mr. Chavez explained that the Caddo Alliance for Freedom was adamant about having representation on the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Currently, they do not have any representation on the board. He said that Ms. Neubert lives outside of the city limits, but in the planning area. He asked that the Commissioners support her candidacy.

Mr. Jackson stated that he will support introduction at this time, but may make a motion to postpone this appointment to allow more candidates to apply.

Mr. Hopkins requested that Mrs. Gage-Watts provide whether or not Ms. Moore lives in the city limits or outside the city limits in the planning area. Mrs. Gage-Watts stated that she does live in Caddo Parish, but will find out if she lives in the planning area.

Mr. Johnson talked about appointing members to a board. He does not agree with an application process for the board appointments. He said that it is up to the Commission to vet the person and vote on that person. Mr. Johnson also explained that it has been tradition to receive resumes for parish-wide appointments, and to lean on the Commissioner for a district specific appointment.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if all of the appointments on the MPC were at-large appointments. Mrs. Gage-Watts stated that they were.

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, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that the removal of Mr. LeMar Flukers from the Industrial Development Board be removed from the agenda.*

Mr. Jackson pointed out that Mr. Flukers provided a letter of resignation, so this action item is not needed.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to authorize the appointment of Mr. Marvin Muhammed to fill the unexpired term left by Mr. LeMar Flukers on the Industrial Development Board, term to expire August 22, 2025* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Substitute motion by Mr. Taliaferro, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that all candidates be considered for the two vacancies on the Industrial Development Board.*

Mr. Taliaferro is pleased that there are several citizens interested in serving on the Industrial Development Board. He would like all candidates to be considered for both vacancies on the board.

Mr. Jackson stated that he did the "leg work" to get Mr. Flukers' letter of resignation. He asked to keep the two vacancies separately. He believes that this motion "shows a hidden motive from day one". Mr. Jackson pointed out that he provided all of the requested information, i.e. letter of resignation and resume. He asked that the Commission move these appointments separately.

Mr. Chavez thanked Mr. Muhammed for coming to the Commission meeting today. He also explained that there "is not a diabolical plan" for these appointments. He mentioned that Mr. Taliaferro is a new Commissioner and believes it would be fair to consider all appointments for these two vacancies.

Mr. Burrell stated that there seems to "be unrest" regarding this appointment. He feels that now is the time to discuss it.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know the reason for the sudden interest in this particular vacancy.

Call for the Question by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Atkins. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Taliaferro's substitute motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (4). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (8). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson, *that the following candidates be considered for the expired term of Mr. Roger DeKay on the Industrial Development Board: Mr. William C. Bradford, Mr. Demetrius Norman, Ms. Earnestine Smith, and Ms. Kay Proby-Waller* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Atkins said that all of the candidates submitted are well-qualified and asked that the Commissioners move all of these appointments to Thursday for consideration.

Substitute motion by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Mr. William McCollum also be considered as a candidate for the Industrial Development Board.*

Mr. Chavez stated that he received the resume after the agenda went out. He asked that Mr. McCollum be moved along with the rest of the candidates.

Mr. Atkins does not feel that it is appropriate to add candidates to the agenda after the agenda has gone out, so he will not be in support of this motion.

Substitute motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Mr. Demetrius Norman be removed as a candidate for the Industrial Development Board.*

Mr. Young stated that all of the other candidates provided a resume, but his candidate did not. He feels that it would be appropriate at this time to remove him as a candidate from consideration.

Mr. Johnson does not feel it would be advisable to add a candidate for consideration "this late in the game". He suggested that this person re-submit their resume for the next opening, if he is still interested.

Mr. Hopkins said that the earlier in the meeting, the Commission voted to add a new candidate to the MPC board for consideration, but now it's a concern to add a new candidate to the Industrial Development Board.

Call for the Question by Mr. Epperson, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Young's substitute motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (6). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (6). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Atkins' motion carried as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that Special Resolution of Recognition to Mr. Doug Dominick for years of service as Caddo Parish Commissioner* be moved to February 6, 2020 Regular Session.

Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to add Mr. Smith, Mr. Epperson, and Mr. Linn, along with Mr. Dominick to the Special Resolution.*

Mr. Johnson mentioned that Mr. Epperson is going into his twenty-second year of service with the Caddo Parish Commission.

Mr. Chavez requested that he be added a co-sponsor to this action item.

Friendly amendment by Mr. Jackson to add Mr. Bowman for the Special Resolution of Recognition. Mr. Johnson accepted his friendly amendment.

Mr. Cawthorne wanted clarification on the motion. Mr. Johnson explained that he added the other Commissioners to the Special Resolution because they served the same time as Mr. Dominick.

Mr. Hopkins explained that he brought forward this special resolution because Mr. Dominick served District 1; he did not want to be presumptuous and add the other Commissioners for other districts.

At this time, Mr. Johnson's substitute motion as amended carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

The Commission then moved to the next New Business item, *authorize discussion of start date and pay for Commission Clerk.*

Mr. Johnson does not believe that the Commissioners should have this discussion until an ethics opinion is rendered. He stated that it would be premature.

Mr. Atkins believes that this should be discussed in a more intimate environment, such as a committee meeting.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to postpone this discussion until an ethics opinion has been rendered and this be forwarded to the appropriate committee.*

Mr. Chavez stated that he will be supporting Mr. Epperson's motion. He also said that he appreciates Mr. Everson for coming and learning about the Commission prior to starting as Commission Clerk.

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson**, seconded Mr. Cawthorne, *to authorize the Parish Attorney to request an ethics opinion regarding Jeff Everson's employment as Caddo Parish Commission Clerk* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Chavez asked for Attorney Frazier's opinion on whether or not this should be passed since Mr. Everson has already sent a letter to the Ethics Board. Attorney Frazier said that she does not have an opinion, she just does what the body asks her to do.

Mr. Chavez then wanted to know if it would yield different results if the Commission submitted the letter versus Mr. Everson submitting a letter. Attorney Frazier said that she cannot say because she does not know how the request will be handled at the Ethics Board.

Mr. Hopkins wanted to know if submitting this letter would delay the process. Attorney Frazier said they could request that it be taken up expeditiously, but that would be up to the Ethics Board.

Mr. Johnson said that this is on the agenda because it has to be voted on to submit a formal request. He also explained that the Parish Attorney represents the Commission body and would have an unbiased opinion regarding this matter.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if Attorney Frazier has seen the letter that was submitted to the Ethics Board. Attorney Frazier stated that she did. Mr. Jackson then asked if the contents of the letter that she submits would be different. Attorney Frazier explained that the letter would state that the Commission body appointed Mr. Everson as the Caddo Parish Commission Clerk, his spouse works for an agency that the Commission has given grant funds in the past, she is the director of that agency, there is no current contract, but that agency was included in the 2020 budget, and whether or not if there is conflict of interest if he accepts the position.

Answering another question from Mr. Jackson regarding if the contract would be with the Commission or the Parish of Caddo, Attorney Frazier stated that it would be with the Parish of Caddo. Mr. Jackson wanted to know if her letter would differ from the letter submitted by Mr. Everson. Attorney

Frazier does not recall from that level of specificity, but she does not believe anything was left out of the letter. Mr. Jackson requested a copy of the letter that Attorney Frazier would draft.

Mr. Epperson stated that things of this nature should have been vetted in the interview process. He believes that this type of letter should come from the Parish Attorney's Office.

Mr. Burrell requested a copy of the letter that was submitted by Mr. Everson. Mr. Burrell also wanted to know if this would push the decision beyond the February 7 date. Attorney Frazier stated that it would not hinder them from making a ruling on February 7, but they may not consider both of them at the same time.

Mr. Burrell mentioned that the Ethics Board will meet on February 7 to do their business. He wanted to know the deadline for the March agenda. Attorney Frazier stated that the deadline is January 23.

Mr. Johnson wanted clarification on Mr. Jackson's point regarding who the contract is with. Attorney Frazier explained that the contract would be with the Parish of Caddo. She also pointed out that the Commission makes the decision on the budget, and the contract is with the Parish of Caddo as authorized by the budget approved by the Commission.

Attorney Frazier also explained that the ethics question needs to be clarified as to whether the Commission has to make a choice of whether Robinson's Rescue can be funded or Mr. Everson is hired or both. At this point, Robinson's is in the budget, and if the Parish withdrew their budget, there would be questions. She also said that if there is a conflict, Mr. Everson would have a decision to make.

Mrs. Gage-Watts pointed out that the Deputy Clerk is currently handling the business of the Commission Clerk's office.

Call for the Question by Mr. Cawthorne, seconded by Mr. Epperson. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson wanted to know who signs contracts on behalf of the Parish. Attorney Frazier said that Dr. Wilson signs all contracts with the Parish. She also pointed out that the budget is approved via legislation (the Commission), and the contracts are executed via Administration (Dr. Wilson).

Mr. Jackson thanked all who came for the day of service in observation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at Centenary College.

He also said that Robinson's Film Center will be showing the Black History Film Series this year.

He also thanked Mr. Whittington for the Reinvest Caddo page. He said that there will be a meeting on February 25 at 5:30 at the Shreve Memorial Library. He asked that property and legal be available to answer questions.

Mr. Jackson then welcomed all of the new Commissioners for this new term.

- Mr. Johnson wanted to know if there were any candidates for the PJAL executive board memberships.

- Mr. Epperson announced his interest as a candidate for the Police Jury Association's Member-At-Large.

He also suggested to add a line on the application forms regarding nepotism. He also reminded the Commissioners to take their ethics class.

- Attorney Frazier pointed out that the Commission will need to set the salary by ordinance for the Clerk to be paid. She said that would need to be done prior to Mr. Everson starting.

- Attorney Frazier reminded the Commissioners of the election of officers at Thursday's Regular Session.

CITIZENS COMMENTS (late arrivals)

Ms. Jane Tappe came before the Commission regarding the UDC. She thanked the Commission and Mr. Clark for their conversations regarding the UDC. She also had several questions for Mr. Clark, i.e. where were the public meetings held? What could be done better to ensure that all citizens receive the information provided by the MPC? Mr. Chavez explained that Mr. Clark would meet with her after the meeting to address some of her questions.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance No. 5941 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to provide an appropriation for the Showtime Boxing event and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Resolution No. 2 of 2020, a resolution to amend the Caddo Parish Commission By-Laws to require resumes for Commission appointments, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Confirm reappointment of Ms. Susan Stevenson to the Caddo Parish Fire District No. 4 Board. Term to expire January 1, 2022*

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

/s/ Michelle Nations
Michelle Nations
Deputy Commission Clerk