

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
OF THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 1st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021

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

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

Due to the passage of Resolution No. 19 of 2021, *a resolution to play patriotic music at the start of Commission meetings in February and March of 2021*, Commissioner Cawthorne chose to play Ray Charles' rendition of America the Beautiful.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- It was moved by **Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to expand the agenda and add Special Resolution of Remembrance for Scott Perry* under New Business.

At this time, the President of the Commission opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the agenda addition. There being no one to speak in favor against the agenda addition, the President of the Commission closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to expand the agenda and add Resolution No. 21 of 2021, a resolution proclaiming February as "American Heart Month" in Caddo Parish* under New Business.

At this time, the President of the Commission opened the floor for anyone to speak in favor or against the agenda addition. There being no one to speak in favor against the agenda addition, the President of the Commission closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

TELECONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to approve consideration of items under La.R.S. 42:17.1. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioner Lazarus (1). ABSENT: Commissioners Gage-Watts and Jackson (2). ABSTAIN: None (0).

CERTIFICATE FOR TELECONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana has declared a statewide Public Health emergency, inclusive of Caddo Parish, in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020;

WHEREAS, the Governor, has further extended that declaration via Proclamations Number 158 JBE 2020 and Number 159 JBE 2020; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 42:17.1 allows members of political subdivisions to participate in its meetings electronically under certain limited circumstances.

THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 42:17.1, the presiding officer of the Caddo Parish Commission hereby certifies that this meeting is to address matters that are:

- (a) directly related to the public Commission's response to the Coronavirus Pandemic and are critical to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.
- (b) that if they are delayed will cause curtailment of vital public services or severe economic dislocation and hardship.
- (c) critical to continuation of the business of the Commission and that are not able to be postponed to a meeting held in accordance with the other provisions of Open Meetings Law due to a legal requirement or other deadline that cannot be

postponed or delayed by the public body. (d) critical or time-sensitive and have been determined by the undersigned should not be delayed; *

Date: January 29, 2021

/s/Lyndon B. Johnson
Caddo Parish Commission President

- * *Consideration of matters under Paragraph (d) will initially require a two-thirds vote of those members present. (This does not affect the vote necessary for adoption or any motion).*

CITIZENS COMMENTS

John Settle submitted the following comment:

February is Black History Month. It is also American Heart Month. Both of these national efforts are very commendable and much needed to educate our citizens. Black History Month is being celebrated by "Spike Lee Joints: A Retrospective" at the Robinson Film Center. This 7-film series is sponsored by the Centenary Film Society. Lee is an Oscar-award winner and a widely acclaimed pioneer in the American Film industry. American Heart Month is dedicated to providing education on heart disease. COVID-19 disproportionately claims the lives of people with a history of heart disease. A well-known feature of American Heart Month is the National Wear Red Day, which is this Friday Feb. 5. This annual event unites millions of people to more awareness of importance of a healthy heart.

Ricky Travis called in with the following comment:

Hello everyone, my name is Ricky Travis. I'm calling opposition to this zoning because I live in Deercreek Subdivision. The reason why, I suppose, is because every time there is an accident on I-20, traffic is re-routed to Greenwood Road. We have one entrance in and one entrance out, and that's Greenwood Road. We are trapped in. If you allow this new business to come in, that means more traffic on Greenwood Road. That will be a problem because there's a tire shop right at Bert Kouns and Greenwood Road where get on I-20. There are company trucks on Greenwood Road in front of us, creating another hazard. We don't need more traffic in our area. I would appreciate that you all would not allow this rezoning to occur.

VISITORS

- A Moment in Black History
Dr. Michael Hicks

Dr. Hicks conducted a presentation on the Legacy of C.C. Antoine, Caesar Carpentier Antoine. He was a Reconstructive Era activist who was a transplant from New Orleans. C.C. Antoine actually sponsored the legislation that ultimately gave the Town of Shreveport its legal status as a city. As a businessman, he was credited with coming up with a way to provide perishable and non-perishable items to the local grocery stores. As an elected official, he was respected by white and black citizens. Most of his writings of his contemporaries are written in French. As a military officer, he was a distinguished Captain in the US Army.

Dr. Hicks showed a slide of C.C. Antoine's house on Perrin Street. There's a historical marker in front of it. There is a discussion to restore C.C. Antoine's home on Perrin Street and convert it into a museum. On Milam Street, there is an obelisk erected honoring C.C. Antoine's legacy. There is also a masonic lodge named after C.C. Antoine. C.C. Antoine Civic Association is a volunteer organization that is focused on education, cultural enrichment, and empowerment.

Mr. Atkins was aware that C.C. Antoine was a senator and a lieutenant governor, but was not aware of him being Acting Governor. He asked for more information in regards to this. Dr. Hicks explained that C.C. Antoine was Acting Governor for a short period of time and was able to put forth some gubernatorial orders.

Mr. Cawthorne pointed out that C.C. Antoine was Lieutenant Governor during the Reconstruction Era.

Mr. Burrell thanked Dr. Hicks for coming before the Commission today and providing the history and legacy of C.C. Antoine.

Dr. Hicks also mentioned that Dr. Gary Joiner and Andrew Prime were instrumental in making sure the once unmarked grave of C.C. Antoine now has the headstone of a military veteran.

Mr. Jackson recognized Professor Willie Burton who mentions C.C. Antoine in his book, "On the Black Side of Shreveport".

Mr. Epperson mentioned that the Caddo Parish Commission renamed General Motors

Boulevard to C.C. Antoine Boulevard. He also pointed out that C.C. Antoine owned much of that land and donated or sold it to Shreveport.

Mr. Johnson thanked Dr. Hicks for coming before the Commission and providing "A Moment in Black History". He explained that there will be one at every Work Session and Regular Session for the month of February.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Confederate Monument Update

Dr. Wilson stated that the RFP is proposed to be issued on January 28, 2021 with responses due back on March 25, 2021. They are estimating the approval of a signed contract in May of 2021.

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if the timeline could be tightened up. Dr. Wilson said that the process could be quicker than the estimated timeline, but it has to go through the process.

Mr. Jackson wanted to know if the monument could be moved due to being in an emergency. Dr. Wilson explained that this does not pertain to the Parish's ability to operate. Mr. Jackson said that there are certain provisions in the bid process. Attorney Frazier explained that this is not a bid process, but an RFP process, so it would not qualify as an emergency. Mr. Jackson then wanted to know if the president could declare an emergency. Attorney Frazier stated that he could not for the removal of the monument.

- Disparity Study Update

Dr. Wilson said that they are hoping to have the RFP issued on February 18, 2021 and awarded by April 2021.

- I-49 Welcome Sign Update

Dr. Wilson provided a rendering of the proposed I-49 Welcome Signs. He said that they are working with architectural firm and DOTD to get authorization to install the sign on the State's right-of-way.

- Wording to be added to the sides of the box covering the Confederate Monument

Dr. Wilson said that the wording on the side of the box covering the monument should be completed this week, as long as the temperature stays above 65 degrees.

- U.S. Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Dr. Wilson said that they are developing the policies and procedures for that program. They issued the RFQ last Friday and expect those submissions back by this Friday. The Governor sent a letter in regards to this program. It is his hope that there will be additional resources for this program.

Mr. Jackson would like to have more discussions regarding the additional resources for the program.

- Legislative Priorities

Dr. Wilson also provided the Commissioners with a worksheet so the Commissioners can provide to Administration their legislative priorities for 2021. He reminded the Commissioners that the session begins on April 12, 2021 and adjourns June 10, 2021. Dr. Wilson asked that the Commissioners submit their worksheets by February 16, 2021 so they can compile a list for the legislature.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Ordinance No. 6030 of 2021, an ordinance declaring the intent of the Parish under L.A.R.S. 47:2236 to acquire full ownership interest in five parcels, namely Lot 5, Block 14, West End Subdivision, Shreveport (GEO. No. 171402-052-0005-00); Lot 11, Block 14, West End Subdivision, Shreveport (GEO. No. 171402-052-0011-00); Lot 10, Block 14, West End Subdivision, Shreveport (GEO. No. 171402-052-0010-00); Lot 20 and the east half of Lot 21, Block 1, Currie Subdivision, Shreveport (GEO. No. 171402-021-0020-00) and Lot 7, Block 9, Currie Subdivision, Shreveport (GEO. No. 171402-029-0007-00), and to otherwise provide with respect thereto be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.*

Mr. Jackson said that this ordinance is in line with the Reinvest Caddo Program. The organization has the Living Learning Community who has lots centered around them to redevelop and repurpose those lots.

Mr. Burrell wanted to know if they were associated with a specific church. Mr. Jackson is not sure, but their nonprofit is People of Praise.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6031 of 2021, an ordinance declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest in certain surplus adjudicated properties, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be postponed.

Mr. Jackson would like to postpone this ordinance so he can get the maps associated with the properties.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that Ordinance No. 6032 of 2021, an ordinance to accept an additional 375 feet of the dedication of Paxton Road into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Chavez explained that this road is up to Caddo Parish standards.

Substitute motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to englobo and move the following ordinances to Thursday's agenda for introduction:*

- *Ordinance No. 6032 of 2021, an ordinance to accept an additional 375 feet of the dedication of Paxton Road into the Parish of Caddo Road System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6033 of 2021, an ordinance authorizing the sale of surplus fleet vehicles and equipment owned by the Parish of Caddo and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

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

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Jackson, *that Ordinance No. 6034 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund in the amount of \$15,000 to provide an appropriation for the NORWELA Council, Boy Scouts of America and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda for introduction.

Mr. Johnson said that Mrs. Gage-Watts called and asked that this be moved to Thursday's agenda. Mr. Jackson asked to be a co-sponsor.

Mr. Taliaferro wanted to know if an application was filled out. Mr. Johnson said that they sent in an application last year and would like to be added to the Commission's NGO process for 2021.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 20 of 2021, a resolution condemning the January 6, 2021 attack on the United States Capitol, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be moved to Thursday's agenda.

Mr. Atkins does condemn the attacks on January 6, 2021, but he does not agree with all of the wording in the resolution.

At this time, Mr. Epperson's motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Jackson, and Johnson (5). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). ABSENT: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to authorize "A Moment in Black History" as a Visitor for the February 4, 2021 Regular Session, February 16, 2021 Work Session, and February 18, 2021 Regular Session.*

Attorney Frazier said that the agenda already allows for visitors, so there is no need to vote on it.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that there is no need for a vote for visitors on the Work Session agenda, but for the Regular Session, the Commission has voted to advance the visitors from the Work Session agenda to the Regular Session agenda.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *to englobo and move the following items to Thursday's agenda:*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Scott Perry*
- *Resolution No. 21 of 2021, a resolution proclaiming February as "American Heart Month" in Caddo Parish*

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

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson said he has a Public Works issue and will forward the information.

Mr. Jackson also said that the Pandemic & Natural Disaster Committee met, and it went well. He explained that the Committee discussed the COVID-19 vaccines and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

CONSENT AGENDA

- *Ordinance 6024 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 20-11-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the south side of Greenwood Road at Calderwood Drive, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District, C-3, General Commercial Zoning District, and I-MU, Industrial Mixed Used Zoning District and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance 6025 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case 20-14-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the west end of Newburn Lane, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-1-12, Single Family Residential District to R-1-7, Single Family Residential District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance 6026 Of 2021, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, to establish R-1-10, Single-Family Residential Zoning District by amending Article 3, Zoning Districts & Zoning Map; by amending Article 4, Zoning Districts; by amending Article 5, Uses; by amending Article 7, regarding the On-Site Development Standards; by amending Article 9, Sign Regulations; by amending Article 10, Landscape & Tree Preservation, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6027 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation to the One Hundred Men of Shreveport for funds remaining at December 31, 2020 to provide COVID-19 testing and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6028 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated*

Work Session Minutes
February 1, 2021

Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$21,000 for the Salvation Army's Merckle Center of Hope for funds remaining at December 31, 2019 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 6029 of 2021, an ordinance to amend and re-enact Article III of Chapter 19 relative to Dr. E. Edwards Jones Housing Trust Fund, to provide for the inclusion of grants within funding sources, to provide for applications and award of grants to appropriate recipients, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, there was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the Commission adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

/s/Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk