

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S  
LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF JUNE, 2021

The Caddo Parish Commission met in an American Rescue Plan Committee Meeting, on the above date, at 11:00 a.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Chavez, Chairperson, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Chavez, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (4). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1).

Dr. Wilson gave the invocation, and Mr. Young led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Committee and moved to the first New Business item, *Discuss Resolution No. 47 of 2021 regarding the creation of a Pandemic Taskforce.*

Mr. Chavez said that this came before the Commission, but had a few concerns, so it was sent to this Committee.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to add the following language to Resolution No. 47: Whereas, the Pandemic Committee, at the time, was responsible for COVID-19 vaccine education and coordination with senior centers and churches, so the citizens can make their own informed decisions to choose whether they want to be vaccinated or not; and Whereas, the Pandemic Committee worked in conjunction with Administration for guidance on the Rental Assistance Program; and Whereas, the Pandemic Committee hosted meetings with local business groups to introduce them to the SBA representative, Mr. Sashil Kumar, to help more small businesses navigate the COVID-19 business relief programs; and Whereas, the Pandemic Committee helped the victims of the Fairfield Condos learn how they can utilize rental assistance and help move and receive relocation support, as well as meeting FEMA representatives; and Whereas, the Pandemic Committee has been working to hopefully receive a vaccine literacy grant from the Office of Minority Health in partnership with LSU Health Science Center and other community partners.*

Mr. Johnson wanted to know if there was anything in the Charter or By-Laws regarding a Commission Taskforce. Attorney Frazier said that there is not. Mr. Johnson said that if there is not a provision creating a taskforce, he would suggest moving this item under Long Range Planning/Special Projects Standing Committee.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if this Resolution passes, would it be considered an illegal committee. Attorney Frazier explained that per the Charter, the Commission has the authority to appoint advisory boards or commissions to provide advice regarding the operations of parish services or activities. She also explained that she has looked at different definitions for advisory boards, commissions, taskforces, etc. She said that they all perform the same function. The question would be whether the Commission would consider this as an advisory board or a commission. She also said that another question would be the purpose in which this taskforce is created if there's already a standing committee. Attorney also pointed out that advisory boards do not normally consist of Commissioners.

Mr. Jackson said that this taskforce is legal as per the Charter. He agrees that this could have fallen under the Long-Range Planning Committee, but an ad hoc committee was already established. He would like to finish the work that committee has started.

Mr. Young wanted to know how the chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee would feel to take over the work of the Pandemic Committee. Mr. Chavez does not believe it would be advantageous for the Long-Range Planning Committee to take over the work that has been done by the Pandemic Committee.

Mr. Johnson agreed that most of the work was completed by Mr. Jackson. He also pointed out that Mr. Jackson is also a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee. Mr. Jackson said that it is customary that the Chair of the Committee is the one who does the most of the work.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's amendment carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (4). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was then **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *to move Resolution No. 47 of 2021 as amended to the full body for consideration. Motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Chavez, Jackson, and Young (3). NAYS: Commissioner Johnson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Hopkins (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

  
Assistant Commission Clerk