

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
PERSONNEL POLICIES & PROCEDURES 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 1:00 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Hopkins, Chairperson, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, and Jackson (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Johnson (1).

Dr. Wilson gave the invocation, and Mr. Chavez 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, *Review of proposed updates to current By-Laws*.

The Clerk of the Commission advised the Committee that they have been provided a clean version of the By-Laws and a copy with tracked changes have been emailed to the committee members. He went over some of the changes that were made in the By-Laws, which included Resolution No. 23 of 2018, Resolution No. 26 of 2021, Glossary, 12 standing committee, modifications to the Order of Business, outdated language, changes to the Travel Policy, voting table with various motions, etc.

Attorney Frazier asked that Legal be afforded an opportunity to peruse the glossary to ensure that it aligns with what's already in the By-Laws.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if there should be a rule added to ensure that the members of the Commission do not get up and walk out during a meeting to protest a vote. Mr. Burrell said that the members of the Commission have the right to get up and walk out, if they so choose.

Attorney Frazier commented that the By-Laws do state that if the Commission does lose a quorum, it can recess to compel the attendance by requesting help of the Sheriff and the possibility to fine the Commissioners. She also pointed out that the fine is in accordance with State law.

Mr. Hopkins pointed out that getting up and walking out is a tool for whichever side would like to use it. He said that it has been done in the Legislature and other place.

Mr. Burrell also mentioned that it raises the attention of the public and allows the public to chime in. He does not feel that this tool should be taken away from the Commission, but does agree that it should not be used often.

Mr. Jackson said that there was a case in Minden when the members protested a meeting. They tried to get a judge to issue a mandamus to get the members to the meeting, but he does not believe that the judge was successful because the members do have a right to protest. He suggested that Legal look into the outcome of that case. Mr. Jackson also pointed out that the constituents have the right to send the elected officials home.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to move the recommended changes to the full body for consideration*.

Attorney Frazier also talked about ad hoc committees. She said that there is no provision for ad hoc committees in the By-Laws. She also said that if the President is going to have the ability to appoint committees, there needs to be a separate rule for it.

She also said that the President has the ability to appoint Commission members to entities who are requesting Commission members to be appointed. That is then ratified by the full body.

Mr. Burrell said that he and Mr. Taliaferro are supposed to be putting together a Broadband Committee. He wanted to know if this would have to be done by resolution. Attorney Frazier said that it would need to be done by resolution because it is not a standing committee. She also said that it would have the function as described in the resolution.

Mr. Jackson mentioned that the Commission President's only functions are to run the meetings, appoint the committees, and serve as the spokesperson for ceremonial purposes. He also pointed out that the Commission does not have a Parish President.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know what the updates were in the Legislature in regards to the Commission President. Attorney Frazier said that she does not believe there were any updates to the Commission President via the Legislature. She explained that the Charter Review suggested that the Commission President is also the president for purposes of emergency disaster declarations that are in the State Law, but those changes still have to go for a vote from the citizens.

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

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 1:46 p.m.


Assistant Commission Clerk