

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF
THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 5th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regular Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, with Mr. Johnson, 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. Epperson, and Mr. Chavez led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Susie Turner came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Okay. Am I allowed to take my mask off? Okay, sorry. It's caught on my glasses here. Yes, I'm going to talk really, really rapidly. Because I only have 3 minutes. But I have already taken the appropriate measures at the lowest level to go to libraries and to turn in reasons why we should remove some of these books off of our children's circulation. It has not been done so. So, I want you to know that this is kind of the next step. It was trying-I did try to take care of this previously. I'm going to really go through this super quickly. I did pass out some of these so you can look through them. The first one is "Not my idea book about whiteness" that is on display in our Children's section for young children that can read to be able to open up and read. It talks about your whiteness being a bad idea, innocence is overrated. These are all things that you can find in there. At the end, there's a contract that you have to sign for your whiteness that you stole land, you stole riches, you did all of these things. Whiteness gets you endlessly, it gets you friends, it gets you favors. It gets you all these human things. This is everything against what your library policy quotes. And your very first statement that is anti-racism. Because just because this is geared towards white children, mind you, not even adults that can maneuver their way through this. That they're shamed. This is hate speech. This is hate speech. My young white boys, which I shouldn't even have to say white in front of it. They go to bed they wake up, guess what? They're still white. They can't change that. That's a God given thing. They are-God made them that way. Created them in the womb. Okay? If this was any other color and it shouldn't matter. Brown. Your brownness is a bad idea? Your blackness is a bad idea? That is racism. It is racism. This book should not be in circulation. And I've asked for it to be removed. Much less on display. It shouldn't be on display. The next one is ABCs of Equality: LGBTQ pick the letter that makes you you. This is a board book for three-year-olds. This is over sexualization of our young children. It is wrong. This book at the very best should have to be requested by the parent to be able to read to their child. Not placed on a bookshelf, where my son opens it up and learns about all kinds of pronouns. That is just incorrect grammar. Okay? So that's my fight today. That we take these books off of here, because they're racist and they're wrong. And they're over sexualizing young kids. This is confusion, division, and it's just hateful. God doesn't call us to do that. He calls us to love our neighbors. These are children we're talking about. Not adults. So, that's my fight today to have these removed from circulation the Shreveport Memorial Library. And if I could have 5 seconds to talk to Mr. Epperson. He is my neighbor and I just want to say, Mr. Ken, that you are such a great neighbor. You exude what being a great neighbor is about and we should have more people like you, sir. So, I appreciate that. All right. Thank you for your time. Y'all have a very blessed day.

Roger Gray came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

I'm here in opposition to the proposal for a six-month ban on drilling and on fracking, because many of us have very small tracks out there. And we're counting on that money for retirement. I'm retired from the state and I can tell you it doesn't go very far. So, some of us need that to send our kids to college. And it's very important now if you get a moratorium for six months what can happen is people that have had lots move back to town they reserve their minerals. Their minerals may run out during that six-months because the oil company can't come in and drill. You have then denied them that income without compensation. You've taken that right from them. And so, I want to encourage you that don't, because there may be a problem with an oil site with dust or noise, address that. Take the splinter out of the eye rather than cutting the head off. And because that's the best analogy. You're attacking a whole industry for maybe a bad operator. And please deal with that on local levels. I know from being environmental scientists with the state there's lots of laws and regulations you guys have got that y'all can use if that's a local problem. Okay? So, I want to encourage you to rethink, please, deny us a little small guys. We don't have hundreds of thousands of acres of land. We're not getting rich but it sure would help on our retirement and send our kids to school. Thank you very much.

Trey Moore came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Thank you, Commissioners, for allowing me this time. I, too, am in opposition for the moratorium on drilling. I'm going to start real quick on a little history that I found in 1870, while drilling a water well for the Shreveport Ice Factory. They discovered natural gas and they ended up using that to light the factory at night. Was pretty genius of these guys a long time ago. And that's 1870, not 1970. First natural gas compressor. And natural gas compression is a billion dollar industry worldwide, just so the people don't

know the industry. The first one was in Rodessa, Caddo Parish. By 190 Caddo Parish accounted for 75% of Louisiana's total oil production. I say all that to say this, there's been a 150 year partnership between Caddo Parish and the oil and gas industry. The industry provides approximately \$130 million in annual wages in Caddo Parish. For every job created 3.4 additional jobs in other sectors are created. Caddo Parish, in 2016, had \$20 plus million in ad valorem tax. And I'm getting all this from Dr. Lawrence Scott that presented this paper in 2016 so these numbers are probably a lot higher with the DNR. So, you ask can we afford to lose this revenue? More importantly can you guys make the cuts necessary if you don't have the revenue to make up for the loss of what we're losing? And for those, I am in the industry, but for those who wonder well, you know you don't have to put up with it. I'll have you know I just moved and 1.1 miles from my front door, they just finished completing a well in front of our neighborhood, or re-completing it. I'm sorry. The third well this year has been fracked in less than 2 miles from my front door. So, I deal with it. I see the lines. I see the dirt in the road. But considering the partnership and the money that it brings. And that money goes to paying teachers, paving roads. So, it more than makes that up. So, I ask you all to think about that because I know the authority lies in the DNR but this should never make it out of Caddo Parish to go there. Get back to the jobs everyone of you Commissioners, I would venture to say have a lot of constituents that either work in the oil and gas industry or they have they own companies, restaurants, hotels. What are we going to tell those people when their hotels aren't full? Their restaurants aren't getting participated in? Because six months these guys are gone. That's something that I hope y'all think about when we get to this vote because this is a very important issue and I think its important to all of us. Whether we realize it or not. But again, I appreciate your time and look forward to seeing how the vote turns out. Thank you.

Candy Peavy came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Good afternoon, Candy Peavy. 71106, Shreveport. I kind of really don't know what to say to you guys anymore. We're talking about mandating a vaccine for Caddo Parish employees, which apparently the last time we met was brought down to a recommendation. But then with the recommendation, you have to take a test every week to prove that you don't have the vaccine. So, if you have to take a test to prove you don't get the vaccine-that you don't get the virus then that's coercion. And it turns out that that test is illegal. It is illegal for your government, our government, to mandate that test under the emergency status that this state currently is operating on. I would imagine that your legal department knows that. The vaccine is not-it just came out. The vaccine's not effective after six months. It loses its effectiveness. So, you want to mandate a vaccine that's not effective after six months. Then are you going to mandate boosters? And if its only a recommendation why are you threatening their employment with testing? This coercion is illegal. The PCR test has been subject to a class one recall. That was two days ago I believe. And its been found to be 50-99% false positives. So, you want to mandate a test that has a very high rate of false positives. Then you're going to make an employee be off work and in quarantine because they have a false positive. And then are you going to pay their salary? I mean, you guys. Does anybody besides me see the absurdity in all of this? The science is changing on a daily basis. The WHO, just said on Tuesday that asymptomatic people do not spread the virus they're not contagious. So, who plays the-Who pays the employees that test positive? Are you going to test every employee? Because the vaccine's obviously aren't providing protection. We are currently under the threat of medical tyranny in this country and our state, obviously, and our parish. Our rights are being infringed everywhere. We turn federal level, state level, and now local level. No one's following the law. This has got to stop. It seems to me that authoritarianism is the virus that we all ought to be worried about. I don't have much time left so I'm not even going to get into anything, but I have the state documents with the numbers that say which rule, which-I don't know the legal term- that proves that it is illegal to mandate and it is illegal to test your employees. Thank you.

Adele Shacklemen came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Some of what I'm going to say has been overcome by what the Governor has said mandating masks, but I want to make my statement anyway. For years, I have heard the phrase 'don't confuse me with facts. My mind's made up'. Why have we all heard that? Because that's the human condition. Once we hear something, make up our minds, we really don't want to change. But as new facts are revealed changes in policy should be considered. Only last week, the CDC revealed the PCR tests cannot distinguish between seasonal flu and COVID. Did you know that in 2020 cases of seasonal flu were down by 99%? Yet, we have never been universally required to wear a mask for flu. The key word here is required. Anyone who truly wants mass protection can wear an N95. The delta variant is more transmissible, but it is also a weaker variant. We have heard that it is more contagious, but we do not hear that it is less virulent than COVID alpha. On August 4th, yesterday, the World Health Organization declared that asymptomatic people are not contagious. Tony Fauci admitted the same thing on September the 9th, 2020, but the myth of asymptomatic transmission persisted. Now that we know the truth, it is unreasonable for asymptomatic people be required to take a COVID test every two weeks. That requirement assumes that people who have no symptoms are guilty of spreading COVID, or even guilty of possibly spreading COVID. It is a policy of guilt until proven innocent. But American law is innocent until proven guilty. In the last two weeks, Ivermectin ha finally come out of the closet. Ivermectin along with Zinc and Vitamin D is an excellent prophylactic and cure for COVID. Now that we are aware of cheap and available cures, I said cures, there's a number of them, the fear of COVID is no longer justified. We citizens appreciate your concern, but do not feel that you have to protect us. We have a sheriff and police for that. Beyond that we want to protect ourselves. We need to see smiles and to enjoy laughter and easy conversation. Do not take that away.

Frances Kelley came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Hey I actually have two comments on two separate subjects. My name is Francis Kelly. I live at 935 London Street in Shreveport. And I spoke to you guys I guess a couple weeks ago about asylum seekers and immigrants. And I have one here today and just wanted to put a face on the issue. I'm not going to talk about his name or his country specifically because he does have an ongoing legal case. But he was found credible. That he does have a credible fear of returning to his country, a fear of being killed by his government. And so, I just wanted to put a you know face to it. And he did want to tell y'all he speaks French. So, that's why I'm speaking for him, but he did want to tell you all that in his country in Africa right now for the past several years it has not been a safe place for various reasons. And he did have to flee for his life. And he does have a family member and neighbor that have been killed under in similar circumstances. So, he's in his asylum process. He's going to be going to his asylum court at some point in the future. Not in Louisiana. He's going to live with his friends tomorrow actually and he will have to demonstrate evidence about why he left his country and what specifically happened to him there. But, just wanted to. You want to? [Speaks French] Okay, he just wanted to say hello to everyone here and also to say God bless you. Okay. So, should I just go ahead and do my second one now.? Okay so I wanted to also speak on resolution 60, which is about you know asking for the meeting with the Department of Natural Resource Commissioner. And I just want to say that here in Louisiana, it's the only state where local government have no say over any kind of regulation of the oil and gas industry, even in terms of zoning where fracking or drilling can occur. And so, it can literally happen next to people's houses. We're the only state where the local government has no say in all of the power is with the state. In addition, every single other industry is subject to either environmental permitting processed that are a public process where citizens can make comments can request a public hearing. The oil and gas industry when it comes to drilling is not. And another industry that for example will be causing noise disturbance and other kinds of disturbances, local governments could issue zoning regulations. But for oil and gas drilling they an exemption. So, I just hope you guys will keep that in mind that why is this industry have this exemption from public participation in the permitting process and from local zoning regulations. And I think it would be a very good idea for the Commission to ask the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to come meet with citizens who are being adversely affected because there shouldn't be an exemption for one industry from the democratic process, which is in fact what's happening. And I just wanted to say, you know, please do pass this regulation. One more thing about that is that taxpayers are bearing the burden of cleanup costs. Several of these companies are going into bankruptcy. Clean up costs that taxpayers are bearing are into the billions of dollars national. And the number of orphaned wells in Louisiana is growing every year faster than the state can cap them. So, there shouldn't be an exemption that allows these companies to have all of the profit but none of the risk, which is what's currently happening. Thanks.

Ken Epperson, Sr. came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Taking the liberty to speak as a citizen, whereas not to prolong your agenda which this affects me also. And thank you. Thank you very much my good neighbor. I told these guys that is as a good person. They didn't believe me. This is a letter from one of my neighbors and you all probably would know her. She's taken care of her mother since she retired. And its Shreveport Louisiana, 71119. I hope that you and your families are all doing well. I am Karen Bell, a recent retiree from the Parish of Caddo and a property owner in Deer Creek Estates Subdivision. I am writing to ask your support for and approval of Resolution No. 60 of 2021. The public "outcry" from the citizenry for better communication from the Oil and Gas Companies is now becoming even "louder and louder", as evidenced, most recently, by some citizens in the MLK area and now those in the Timberline, Deer Creek Subdivisions and surrounding areas. The letters that the Oil and Gas Companies provide to all potentially affected property owners do not adequately address some, if not all, "hard questions and concerns" that are being raised. According to a Blog posted by "The Wilderness Society", oil and gas drilling is bad for the environment. It has a serious impact on our wildlands and communities, operating around the clock and generating pollution. The health threats from oil and gas drilling are very real. More than 12 million people live within ½ mile of most sites and are exposed to pollutants on a daily basis. There should be a prerequisite for Oil and Gas Companies desiring to drill in close proximity to subdivisions. Those hard questions and concerns can best be addressed, ultimately, by holding "Informational Meetings", whereby the Companies and those citizens can engage in those discussions. Resolution No. 60 of 2021 puts that prerequisite in place, as well as, the other much-needed measures which are outlined in the proposed Resolution. Please seriously consider putting this legislation into place by passing Resolution No. 60 of 2021 which gives citizens a "seat at the table, and a voice and buy-in" in this practice, especially, when these companies are operating, literally in our backyards. Thank you for all that you, along with the Administration and all of the Parish of Caddo employees do to make Caddo Parish a wonderful place to live, work and recreate!! Sincerely, Karen Bell. Thank you.

Marvin Muhammed came before the Commission and gave the following statement:

Thank you, President Johnson, and to the Commission as a whole. On July 20th, myself, PTSA, Greenhouse PTSA President Lola Lawson Cooper Road Community Committee member Ryan Williams and also community member Desean Jones, we travelled to Baton Rouge to the July 20· 2021 Commission Meeting with the Conservation Department of Natural Resources. And on the agenda that day was a petition by Trinity Operating LLC to actually drill in the MLK community. Our concerns were some of the same concerns that Caddo Commission Epperson mentioned in his resolution in District 12. Here is a

map and this was provided by Trinity. In this 2x1 a 1x2 square mile unit that they're proposing two things existed, Greenhouse Performing Arts Academy and Pine Grove. In their presentation they mentioned how there would be a terminal and they begin on the southern port of the drilling area, which is the southern border which would be MLK Drive, which is the main thoroughfare that travels through the MLK community. What this map also shows is that on the eastern border, which is the garden. So, from David Rains to the Garden is one mile. There is going to be a line directly under Green Oaks Performing Arts Academy. So, our children are going to be susceptible to drilling. 7th graders, 8th graders, 9th graders, 10th graders, 11th graders, 12th graders. At that hearing we did ask for a temporary moratorium to the board. So, we asked for that on that decision particularly not necessarily in activity in Caddo Parish, but we did ask the board to not make a decision for six months so that the community could better investigate and that Trinity could come back to us and address some of our concerns. In conclusion, another matter came up in our committee meetings. About 10 years ago or so, the Haynesville shell did drilling. There also been encroachment with I-49. What we also know historically that there are still some properties that still belongs to Sewer District #5. In 1959, the Cooper Road Community Civil Club. Thank you, Mr. President. In 1959, the Cooper Road Community Civics Club they did a feasibility study. And after about 7,500 residents of that area went this was at the time that the MLK community wasn't a part of the City, they did a feasibility study and found that there was a lot of concerns. Some of the concerns that the MLK area did not have plumbing. So, in 1960 there was a resolution and we created at that time sewer district #5. One of the most profound things that we did at that time, when I say we I mean my grandparents, we actually put down 40 miles of pipe and also the very first chemical treatment plant in this area. The very first. During that time of course, many other things, many other accomplished by Sewer District #5, of course, was accomplished, but to fast forwards, because I know my ascension of time is fast moving, in 1978 the City of Shreveport annexed the MLK community into the City of Shreveport. What didn't happen, but there wasn't a complete transfer of all the lands and partials that belonged-that was under the position of sewer district #5. So, with that being said, there's been moneys with the encroachment I-49, there's moneys that needs to be identified, and those parcels of land that the Sewer District #5 was on. What did transfer was water management, water treatment and whatnot. What didn't happen was land. So, what we're asking for the Commission to look at and this is something that I have inherited. We're asking you all to look into that. We're going to also make a similar presentation with the City of Shreveport, so we can move forward. So, that we can see. Because even with the new development coming, we-there's also, we believe, Mr. President and others, there's also moneys that would be rendered to Sewer District #5, which we at that time, as I conclude, we'll want those moneys turned over to Sewer District #5. And then placed in the hands of the citizens in the area. Thank you.

LABI, LMOGA, & LOGA submitted the following letter:

It has come to the attention of the oil and natural gas industry, jointly represented by the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association (LMOGA), and the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association (LOGA) (collectively referred to herein as "the Associations"), that the Caddo Parish Commission (the "Commission") has proposed a resolution urging the Department of Natural Resources (the "DNR") to enact a six-month moratorium on drilling and completions operations within Caddo Parish. The Associations ask the Commission to reconsider the moratorium element of the proposed resolution. The Associations recognize the important concerns the resolution seeks to address. However, given the critical role Caddo Parish plays in oil and natural gas activity in the State of Louisiana, the moratorium is an extreme step that will undoubtedly cause devastating economic impacts to the Associations' members and the residents of Caddo Parish. Caddo Parish has had a productive working relationship with the natural gas and oil industry. Since 2014, the natural gas and oil industry has provided more than 5,000 direct jobs to Caddo Parish residents, including more than 500 direct jobs directly related to drilling. One of the greatest benefits of this industry is not just the direct jobs created, but the thousands of indirect jobs created because of oil and natural gas activity - more than 6,000 indirect jobs in Caddo Parish since 2015. These are good-paying jobs, paying up to approximately \$93,000,000 in wages to Caddo Parish residents. For wages connected to drilling, wages have totaled up to \$4,000,000 annually paid since 2013. The indirect jobs created in Caddo Parish because of oil and gas activity generates up to \$100,000,000 in wages annually. In addition to paying wages to residents of Caddo Parish, the natural gas and oil industry has paid more than \$100,000,000 million in ad valorem taxes directly to Caddo Parish.¹ The Associations believe any issues involving oil and natural gas operations can and should be solved in a collaborative manner, without the need for a moratorium. A drilling moratorium is counterproductive, would impact the whole industry, and create more issues for citizens and the parish than the commission has considered. As background to the regulation of the industry, the conservation and regulation of natural resources fall under the Commissioner of Conservation's sole jurisdiction on the issuance of permits relating to activities of natural gas and oil, granted under Title 30 of Louisiana's Revised Statutes.² The rights of lessors are explicitly articulated in Title 31, also referred to as the Mineral Code. Under Louisiana's Mineral Code, the property rights of royalty owners are clearly written, revised over one hundred years following extensive judicial review and jurisprudence. A mineral owner's rights are clear - and when the mineral owner decides to execute a lease with a potential operator, this is a contract executed between the interested parties. Further, this contractual right, once granted, vests and is protected by Louisiana's Constitution, thus any deprivation or interference of that right is subject to judicial challenge. In addition, the law provides for ample opportunity for public input prior to drilling. This occurs through the administrative process granted by the Office of Conservation's Administrative Division, the issuing division of a permit to drill, and through the unitization hearing. In creating a unit, the operator must post publicly their intent to drill, reach out to surrounding interested parties, and hold a public hearing the permit is granted which affords the public an opportunity to speak up regarding any concerns. During drilling,

operators must comply with the rules and regulations set out by the Office of Conservation and the enforcement of those requirements falls under the jurisdiction of the Regulatory Division of the Office Conservation. If there are any concerns that an operator is out of compliance, it should be reported as soon as possible. There are display requirements for contact information of the operator, noise limitations for drilling, and traffic restrictions that must be followed. If these have been violated or a stakeholder believes they have been violated, it is important to report it to the Office of Conservation.³ The Division Director is J. Brent Campbell⁴ and the Shreveport District Manager is Patrick Raley.⁵ Please know, however, that the Associations' members are committed to resolve Caddo Parish residents' specific concerns whether raised with the Office of Conservation or raised directly to the members. Further, the Associations respectfully request that the Commission not pass the proposed resolution. Louisiana continues to be at the forefront of responsibly sourced oil and natural gas, and as the global demand for oil remains steady and the demand for natural gas is projected to double by 2050, Louisiana- and Caddo Parish- stand to benefit. We look forward to continuing the conversation with Caddo Parish.

Carlsbad Current Argus:

Looking down the road on oil and gas development A basic tenet of driving, whether on a bicycle or in a car, is to look down the road ahead. Focusing on the pavement right in front of you will likely lead to a crash. The current fixation on the benefits of gas and oil development by local leaders ignores the long-term liabilities. Why would anyone tie their financial security to one stock that has a predictable result of boom and bust? Isn't it a smarter strategy to have a balance portfolio? But, even more significant than focusing on short term benefits of gas and oil is the ignoring of the long term impact to our planet. How can we ignore the science which continues to tell us that burning fossil fuel is the main contributor to global warming? What will be gained by searching for voices that dispute reality? What benefits us as a local community cannot be the only measure of what is just and fair for others. We are always a neighborhood. Do we expect that the way out of our current fix will be painless? Instead of castigating those who call attention to the pollution and management of the extraction industry would we not be better served to bring people and resources together to look down the road? Surely, the resources are available, including those of the oil and gas industry itself. Reasonable objections to our dependency on fossil fuels is not motivated by a punitive mindset, but by a sense of the dangers that loom ahead. We cannot look down at the pavement right in front of us and have this end up well. We are a strong community if we remain in dialogue with the larger world and open ourselves to diverse views and engage one another in dialogue rather than resisting the changes that are sure to come. Let's come together and look down the road so we can have a healthy future.

VISITORS

- Justyn Dixon
North Louisianan Economic Partnership (NLEP)

Mr. Dixon introduced himself as the President of NLEP. He comes from the private sector and has been doing industrial development for real estate trust for the past nine years. Mr. Dixon said that he looks forward to working with the Commission.

Mr. Chavez congratulated Mr. Dixon on his new role and appreciates that he is a "cheerleader for Shreveport and Caddo Parish".

Mr. Cawthorne also congratulated Mr. Dixon on his new role. He also said that Caddo does allow for duplication and sometimes in terms of economic development efforts "stumble over each other". Mr. Cawthorne wanted to know what Mr. Dixon's plan was for addressing that issue. Mr. Dixon said that Shreveport/Caddo is competing with other communities like Little Rock, Jackson, and Montgomery. He also said that they have put in procedures in place where NLEP and the Port are working together on projects.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Dixon for coming down to the Commission and introducing himself.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to adopt the Regular Session Minutes from July 22, 2021.* Motion carried.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *that Special Resolution of Recognition for Mr. Marco French* be adopted. Motion carried by acclamation.

Mr. Taliaferro thanked Principal French for being a leader and a mentor for the students in his school. He also expressed appreciation for Principal French for taking an active role in the future of the children.

Principal Marco French thanked the Commission for honoring him today.

Mr. Cawthorne congratulated Principal French for all of hard work and improving the Queensborough Elementary. Mr. Burrell echoed the same sentiments and commended Principal French for his leadership in this school.

Mrs. Gage-Watts also congratulated Principal French and said she is so proud of him. Mr. Johnson agreed and expressed his appreciation for all of his hard work at Queensborough Elementary.

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
QUEENSBOROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
MARCO FRENCH**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission desires to acknowledge and commend individuals whose lives and efforts are devoted to the youth of Caddo Parish, and who strive to make a difference in the community by making a difference in the lives of the young people whocome into their charge; and

WHEREAS, such an individual is Mr. Marco French, principal at Queensborough Elementary School in Shreveport, who began his experience in Caddo Parish Public School System in 2003 as a Substitute Teacher at Atkins Elementary, and pursued Education as a profession by 2010, by 2017 he was named Principal of Queensborough Elementary School where he guided the school from being on the cusp of a state takeover due to low performance scores, back to its position as a centerpiece for the community where students can be proud of their accomplishments which in addition to being removed from the state's academically failing list, include receiving recognition as Louisiana's Outstanding School, ranking number one of the top ten high-performing schools for third-grade literacy progress and growth in 2019 and being recognized for having the highest growth in the district with a 93.7 percent progress index and a school performance score increase of eight points; and

WHEREAS, Principal French was able to accomplish these milestones by being an exceptional role model and leader while believing in the students, accepting no excuses and exhibiting a style of service leadership rooted in personal experience, perseverance, diligence, the importance of relationship building and relatability and it is this leadership that has resulted in French earning the prestigious title of the Louisiana Department of Education's 2022 State Principal of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. French received his Bachelor of Science in Education from Grambling State University and earned his Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University, and put his knowledge to work for the students of Caddo Parish;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby extend its heartiest expressions of commendation and appreciation to Principal **Mr. Marco French** for his untiring efforts on Queensborough Elementary School's behalf and for the worthy example he sets for his students to emulate, and wishing him much continued success in his future.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-watts, *to englobo and adopt the following special resolutions and postpone Special Resolution honoring Irene Kamala Lacy to the next Regular Session:*

- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Robert W. Handy*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Cynthia Hightower Jenkins*

Mr. Epperson asked that all the Commissioners be added to the Special Resolution of Remembrance for Cynthia Hightown Jenkins.

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

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & APPRECIATION
ROBERT W. HANDY**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission desires to recognize those citizens of the Parish who have distinguished themselves through their achievement, selfless service and inspiration to others, and who in doing so have done much to serve Caddo Parish and enrich the lives of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, such a person is Mr. Robert W. Handy, who is a lifelong resident of the Allendale Community and graduate of Fair Park High School. Mr. Handy has always believed that it was important to improve his community; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty years, Mr. Handy has sponsored the RW Handy Thanksgiving Senior Meal program at Canaan Towers, which provides much needed meals for the elderly;

and

WHEREAS, Mr. Handy has also sponsored the RW Handy Backpack Drive for the past twenty years, providing backpacks to families and students in the Allendale Community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby declare August 14, 2021 as:

'Robert W. Handy Day'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its sincere and warmest appreciation to Mr. Handy for his service and commitment to his community and Parish.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE
CYNTHIA HIGHTOWER JENKINS**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sadness and regret to reflect upon the passing of a beloved member of our community, Cynthia Hightower Jenkins, who left to be united with her Heavenly Father on Thursday, July 29th, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Cynthia Hightower Jenkins was known for her elegance, compassion, style, impact and unflinching love for her friends & family, Jenkins shone in any endeavor that she chose to undertake, weather she was volunteering to help others, cultivating luxury lifestyles as part of her business, or supporting and advocating for political leadership that would benefit her community; and

WHEREAS, Jenkins was blessed with a personality as gracious and compassionate as it was progressive and edgy, someone who pushed boundaries to open minds and changed lived through her nature to encourage others to be their best and look beyond their limits; and

WHEREAS, Jenkins presence in the lives of her family illustrates her encouraging nature, as she stood beside husband Sam Jenkins through his law career, rearing a family together and his esteemed career in public service from his time on the Caddo Parish Commission, to the Shreveport City Council and his current role as State Representative for Louisiana House District 2, just as she encouraged son, Atari, in his marriage to daughter-in-law Tara or encouraged daughter Annia to share their strengths by partnering on such endeavors as All Things Beautiful, Inc. or Krewe de Etoile; and

WHEREAS, 11th National President of, and Jenkins' sister in the Links, Pat Russell-McCloud said of Cynthia, "Perfection was her signature," as too it will be her legacy leaving behind a family who knew her perfect love and a community that will forever benefit from her encouragement and grace;

WHEREAS, Jenkins, when asked about her unique elegance, was quoted as saying, "Elegance is not about being noticed, it's about being remembered," a statement that holds true as remember her legacy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in honor of Cynthia Hightower Jenkins and her enduring legacy, that it does hereby proclaim August 7th, 2021 as:

'Cynthia Hightower Jenkins Day'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, inviting all citizens of the Parish to join in celebrating the life and legacy of Cynthia Hightower Jenkins that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its deepest sense of sorrow and loss upon the passing of Cynthia Hightower Jenkins, conveying its sincerest expressions of sympathy and consolation to her loved ones, and the prayer that they will be comforted in the knowledge of the eternal rewards that will be hers.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING CASES

The Chair of the Commission opened the public hearings for the following zoning ordinances and cases:

- *Ordinance No. 6084 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case No. 21-14-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 north of Overton Brooks Road, approximately one thousand six hundred feet west of Norris Ferry Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to R-E, Residential Estate District*
- *Ordinance No. 6085 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case No. 21-22-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 east side of Mansfield Road, approximately six hundred fifty feet south of Stage Coach Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from I-2, Heavy Industrial District to C-2, Corridor Commercial District

There being no one to speak in favor or against these zoning cases, the Chair closed the public hearings on these zoning cases.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The Chair of the Commission opened the public hearings for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021, an ordinance adopting the Budget of Estimated Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6086 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$20,000 for Louisiana Urban Gardening and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6087 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Health Tax Fund to appropriate PETCO Love Grant proceeds in the amount of \$10,000 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6088 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Soul Food Festival and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6089 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Multicultural Center of the South and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6090 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for a COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6092 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church Tutoring Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6094 of 2021, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6095 of 2021, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road near the intersection of Roy Road and Shepherd Road in the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6097 of 2021, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 6073 of 2021, setting the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages and levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2021 on property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, to correct the amount set for the Public Health Facilities Millage, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6098 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation of \$50,000 for a Wastewater Program for COVID-19 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak in favor or against these ordinances, the Chair closed the public hearings on these ordinances.

ZONING CASES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 6084 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case No. 21-14-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 north of Overton Brooks Road, approximately one thousand six hundred feet west of Norris Ferry Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to R-E, Residential Estate District be adopted.*

Mr. Young said that Caddo Parish's population is not growing. When we make more residential areas in places where they aren't residential areas now, a safe assumption is that people are moving from one part of Caddo Parish to another, he said.

Mr. Atkins explained that this has gone through the MPC and has been considered as part of the Master Plan.

At this time, Mr. 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).

ZONING CASE 21-14-P, ORDINANCE NO. 6084 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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 NORTH OF OVERTON BROOKS ROAD, APPROXIMATELY ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FEET WEST OF NORRIS FERRY ROAD, CADDO PARISH, LA., FROM R-A, RURAL AGRICULTURE DISTRICT TO R-E, RESIDENTIAL ESTATE DISTRICT

BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to wit:

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property located north of Overton Brooks Road, approximately one thousand six hundred feet west of Norris Ferry Road, Caddo Parish, LA, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended **from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to R-E, Residential Estate District:**

W/2 OF SE/4 IN SEC. 17 (16-13) LYING WEST OF RAILROAD & LESS ROADS SECTION 17,R16W, T13N, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Lazarus**, seconded Mr. Hopkins, *that Ordinance No. 6085 of 2021, in regards to Zoning Case No. 21-22-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 east side of Mansfield Road, approximately six hundred fifty feet south of Stage Coach Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from I-2, Heavy Industrial District to C-2, Corridor Commercial District be adopted. 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).

ZONING CASE 21-22-P, ORDINANCE NO. 6085 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

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 EAST SIDE OF MANSFIELD ROAD, APPROXIMATELY SIX HUNDRED FIFTY FEET SOUTH OF STAGE COACH ROAD, CADDOPARISH, LA., FROM I-2, HEAVY INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO C-2, CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL DISTRICT:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows, to wit:

The official Zoning Map of the Shreveport Metropolitan Planning Area of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be amended by rezoning property located on the east side of Mansfield Road, approximately six hundred fifty feet south of Stage Coach Road, Caddo Parish, LA, more particularly described below, be and the same is hereby amended **from I-2, Heavy Industrial District to C-2, Corridor Commercial District:**

LOTS 3 & 4, IBLING INDUSTRIAL PARK SECTION 20, T16N, R14W, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCES (for final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021, an ordinance adopting the Budget of Estimated Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Amendment by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to amend Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021, to include the projects recommended by the American Rescue Plan Committee at 50% of the recommended amount, except for the DA's Office, which would be at 100% of the recommended amount; additionally, the remaining balances for these projects, including any unspent money at the end of 2021 should be included in the 2022 Budget or any future budget if necessary.*

Mr. Johnson explained that the projects will be funded at 50% for 2021 and the other funds will be expended in 2022.

Amendment by Mr. Burrell, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to amend Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021, to include an appropriation of \$30,000 for economic recovery for ICE Biz Camp.*

Amendment by Mr. Taliaferro *to amend Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021, to include an appropriation of \$300,000 for lost revenue for the Downtown Development Authority.*

Mr. Taliaferro said that the DDA did not meet the deadline, but filled out an application. He explained that the \$300,000 is to replace the revenue that was lost in 2020.

Mr. Chavez said that it might be advantageous to send this ordinance back to Committee. He wanted to know if there was a time restraint on this budget. Mr. Johnson explained that the strategic plan has to be submitted by August 31st.

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Cawthorne, *to remove repairs to property damage due to storms from the scope of Lakeside Neighborhood Association and add \$600,000 for vaccination coordination.*

Mr. Johnson asked for more clarification regarding the vaccination coordination. Mr. Jackson said that it would be \$600,000 total. He also said that there are going to be seasonal flare ups, so having dollars set aside would help the Commission be prepared. He said that the ordinance that was moved for introduction on Monday would be withdrawn if this is passed.

Amendment by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *to reallocate the \$432,000 for the GI Pilot Program and move it to the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund.*

Mr. Atkins would like to help the citizens, but in an organized, well-established structure.

Mr. Hopkins wanted to know if this was the same for the Kennedy Center. Mr. Jackson explained that the Kennedy Center works with individuals with disabilities.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that she will not be supporting this amendment.

Mr. Jackson asked for clarification on why the monies are being reallocated to the E. Edward Jones Housing Trust Fund. Mr. Johnson explained that it is redirecting the money and putting it for housing instead of directly paying the citizens.

Mr. Young wanted to know what the GI Program stands for. Mr. Johnson explained that it will fund 140 citizens \$600 per month of guaranteed income for one year. These individuals will be selected on certain criteria based single parent households.

At this time, Mr. Atkins' amendment carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Cawthorne, Gage0Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (4). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson *to remand the DDA request to the American Rescue Plan Committee.* Motion died due to the lack of a second.

Mr. Jackson said that he is not favor of adding this funding to the American Rescue Plan funding because the DDA is 100% in District 3. He explained that the DDA Director reached out to him, and he directed her to Administration to vet the request. Mr. Jackson also mentioned that the DDA is statutorily created and is the City of Shreveport's responsibility. He asked that the Commissioners would reach out to him for issues going on in his district.

Mr. Taliaferro said that the DDA Director reached out to him and said that they did not meet the deadline, so he did not see an issue with it. He also wanted to know if all of the funding requests would go back to the American Rescue Plan Committee.

Mr. Johnson said that he has not seen the application. He suggested that this be brought up at the next American Rescue Plan Committee meeting to be further vetted.

Amendment by Mrs. Gage-Watts, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *to move the \$432,000 back to the GI Pilot Program.*

Mrs. Gage-Watts explained that these funds are derived from private funds as well as local funds. She said that this program has been utilized throughout the country to see what could be fixed by adding additional income to their households.

Call for the Question by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Atkins. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (9). NAYS: Commissioners Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Young (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Taliaferro's amendment failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (3). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (9). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

At this time, Mr. Johnson's amendment 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, Ordinance No. 6080 of 2021 was adopted as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (12). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 6080 OF 2021 (AMENDED)

ORDINANCE NO. 6080 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) became law on March 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA provides \$350 billion in additional funding for state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, for the first time all municipal governments are entitled to direct, non-competitive federal formula grant from the US Treasury Department; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish will receive a total of \$46.59 million from the ARPA; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish has received \$23.29 million in 2021 and will receive the balance of \$23.29 million in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish will appropriate the funds based on the Treasury guidelines; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish will fund projects from Parish Administrations, Parish Funded Agencies, the Commission and other public bodies; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to adopt a budget for expenditures in the American Rescue Plan Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2021 as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>American Rescue Plan Fund:</u>	
Expenditures:	
Federal Grant Expenditures:	
Parish Administration	\$15,100,000
Parish Funded Agencies	\$726,544
Commission Programs	\$2,815,000
Other Public Bodies	\$3,308,525
Other Organizations	\$660,489
Fund Balance	(\$22,610,558)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that Ordinance No. 6086 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$20,000 for Louisiana Urban Gardening and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Taliaferro suggested that this organization work with Shreveport Green and develop a comprehensive cohesive plan that would benefit everyone, then come back to request additional dollars if necessary. Mr. Johnson mentioned that this will be accomplished in the American Rescue Plan Greenspace Infrastructure portion.

Mr. Young pointed out that this is not a duplication of effort, but an increase of effort.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobe and adopt the following ordinances:*

- *Ordinance No. 6086 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund to provide an appropriation of \$20,000 for Louisiana Urban Gardening and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6087 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Health Tax Fund to appropriate PETCO Love Grant proceeds in the amount of \$10,000 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6088 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Soul Food Festival and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6090 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for a COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6092 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church Tutoring Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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).

ORDINANCE NO. 6086 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION OF \$20,000 FOR LOUISIANA URBAN GARDENING AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative is a 501c(3) that was founded in June 2020 as a response to food insecurity crisis in the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative is to educate communities on sustainability by creating fresh food sources, serve as a seed distribution hub and provide wellness education; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative will be a cluster of faith-based organizations that will have community gardens on their premises; and

WHEREAS, the gardens will be in the following areas: West Shreveport, South Shreveport, Mooretown, Queensborough and Cedar Grove; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2021 Riverboat Fund budget to provide an appropriation of \$20,000 to Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Riverboat Fund</u>	
NGO Appropriations	
Louisiana Urban Gardening Initiative	\$20,000
Fund Balance	(\$20,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6087 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE HEALTH TAX FUND TO APPROPRIATE PETCO LOVE GRANT PROCEEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Animal Services applied for an Animal Sheltering and Adoption grant through Petco Love in 2020; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Petco Love awarded Caddo Parish Animal Services a \$10,000 grant for use in any lifesaving purpose; and

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish Animal Services will use these funds to purchase microchips, vaccinations, collars and leashes for shelter animals; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Health Tax Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Health Tax Fund</u>	
Revenues:	
Other Grants	\$10,000
Expenditures:	
Animal Services	
Grant Programs	\$10,000

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6088 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SOUL FOOD FESTIVAL AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the inaugural Louisiana Soul Food Fall Festival will be a three-day event held at the Louisiana State Fairgrounds from August 27, 2021 through August 29, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Festival will feature southern cuisine, live music, a vendor's village, a variety of local and national artists, a judged soul food cooking competition, and various awards for culinary excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Festival will provide positive, community-centered exposure to our parish,

generate economic activity for the parish, and provide a unique festival experience to promote quality of life in the parish; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Economic Development Fund</u>	
Allocation to Other Entities	
Soul Food Fall Festival	\$ 20,000
Fund Balance	(\$ 20,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6090 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR A COVID-19 VACCINATION CAMPAIGN AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, as of Sunday, July 18th, a total of 49% of the American population is fully vaccinated against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is behind the national average with only 36.1% of the total population being fully vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, studies show that vaccines are not only effective against the virus, they're also highly effective at preventing serious disease or hospitalization in the event of infection; and

WHEREAS, the current COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be effective in minimizing the spread and severity of COVID-19 infections, including the delta variant, now the dominant strain in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the delta variant is expected to become the dominant strain of COVID-19 in Caddo Parish and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, hospitals in the area may be at risk of being overwhelmed with COVID-19 patients in the event that cases requiring hospitalization increase rapidly; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan includes provisions to allow for funds to be set aside to support COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the goal is to achieve higher vaccination rates within the Caddo Parish population; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>American Rescue Plan Fund</u>	
COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign	\$ 50,000
Fund Balance	(\$ 50,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions

of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6092 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE RIVERBOAT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SHADY GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH TUTORING PROGRAM AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Shady Grove Missionary Baptist Church (MBC) offers an after-school tutoring program for low-income students; and

WHEREAS, Shady Grove MBC was negatively affected by COVID-19 due to social distancing requirements and the government-mandated shutdown of businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Shady Grove MBC requires additional funding to meet the expense requirements of providing the after-school tutoring program for low-income students; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide an additional \$6,000 appropriation for the Shady Grove MBC after-school tutoring program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Riverboat Fund</u>	
Allocation to Other Entities	
Shady Grove MBC - Tutoring Program	\$ 6,000
Fund Balance	(\$ 6,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 6089 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Riverboat Fund for the year 2021 to provide an appropriation for the Multicultural Center of the South and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.*

Amendment by Mr. Cawthorne, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to add German, Polish, Italian, and English to the ordinance. 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 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).

ORDINANCE NO. 6089 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO PROVIDE AN

APPROPRIATION FOR THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER OF THE SOUTH AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Multicultural Center of the South is collaborating with other entities to produce "19 Cultures - Culture Fest!", Northwest Louisiana's first Multicultural Festival; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural Festival will be held on Saturday, September 11, 10am –10pm at Caddo Common Park; and

WHEREAS, the first year of this Festival is a pilot program for what is expected to become an annual, weekend-long Festival; and

WHEREAS, the Festival features and celebrates the 19 cultures represented at the Multicultural Center of the South; and

WHEREAS, the cultures/ethnicities being represented include Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, Turkish, Greece, Iranian, East Indian, Native American Indian, African American, Mexican/Latino/Hispanic, Scotland, Ireland, Creole, Italian, German, Polish, English; and

WHEREAS, the Festival will include cultural and historical education, performances, entertainers, vendors, and food; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund for the year 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

<u>Economic Development Fund</u>	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Allocation to Other Entities	
19 Cultures – Culture Fest!	\$ 20,000
Fund Balance	(\$ 20,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Atkins**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *that Ordinance No. 6094 of 2021, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Substitute motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobe and adopt the following ordinances and remove Ordinance No. 6098 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation of \$50,000 for a wastewater program for COVID-19 and to otherwise provide with respect thereto:*

- *Ordinance No. 6094 of 2021, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4, in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6095 of 2021, an ordinance to close and abandon a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road near the intersection of Roy Road and Shepherd Road in the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6097 of 2021, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 6073 of 2021, setting the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages and levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2021 on property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, to correct the amount set for the Public Health Facilities Millage, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, Mr. Jackson'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).

ORDINANCE NO. 6094 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF THE DEDICATION FOR LEE BOULEVARD IN LINWOOD PARK HOMESITES, UNIT NO. 4, IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, a request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard located in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4 has been received by the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard located in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4 and finds that portion of Lee Boulevard is no longer needed for Parish of Caddo public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard located in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4 and finds that the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for Lee Boulevard is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the closure and abandonment of a portion of Lee Boulevard located in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4 in the Parish of Caddo be, and the same is hereby, closed and abandoned, and only to the extent, that said road was used as a public road; said portion of Lee Boulevard more specifically described as follows:

That portion of the dedication of Lee Boulevard lying between Lot 12, Block 5 and Lot 7, Block 6, Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, as shown in hash marks on the attached plat marked Exhibit "A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance and plat marked Exhibit "A", displaying that portion of Lee Boulevard located in Linwood Park Homesites, Unit No. 4 to be closed and abandoned, shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the property described hereinabove shall revert to the adjoining property owners or their successors, heirs or assigns subject to the reservation of an easement for utilities.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6095 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF THE DEDICATION FOR AN UNNAMED ROAD NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF ROY ROAD AND SHEPHERD ROAD IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, a request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road has been received by the Parish of Caddo; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road and finds that portion of the unnamed road is no longer needed for Parish of Caddo public purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request for the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road and finds that the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal

and regular session convened, that the closure and abandonment of a portion of the dedication for an unnamed road located in the Parish of Caddo be, and the same is hereby, closed and abandoned, and only to the extent, that said road was used as a public road; said portion of an unnamed road more specifically described as follows:

All of that portion of the dedication of an unnamed road located in the Parish of Caddo as shown in red hash marks on the attached plat marked Exhibit "A".

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a copy of this ordinance and plat marked Exhibit "A", displaying that portion of the dedication for an unnamed road to be closed and abandoned, shall be filed in the conveyance records of the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the property described hereinabove shall revert to the adjoining property owners or their successors, heirs or assigns subject to the reservation of an easement for utilities.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 6097 OF 2021

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 6073 OF 2021 SETTING THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MILLAGES AND LEVYING AND IMPOSING TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR 2021 ON PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, TO CORRECT THE AMOUNT SET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES MILLAGE, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 6073 of 2021 was adopted on June 17, 2021 to set the general purpose and special purpose millages and imposed taxes and assessments for 2021 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo;

WHEREAS, that ordinance inadvertently carried forward the 2020 millage rate for creation and support of public health centers, also known as the public health facilities millage;

WHEREAS, the millage rate was shown as .88 mills when the renewal millage rate as levied in the election of November 3, 2020 is .87 mills.

WHEREAS, the millage rate must be corrected in order to levy the proper tax rate on property subject to taxation in the Parish;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Ordinance No. 6073 of 2021 is amended in and only in the following respect:

**	*	*	*	*	*	*
			Levy Rate			Maximum Authorized Rate
			*	*		*
Special Purpose: Public Health:						
For the creation and support of public Health centers in the Parish			.88 mills <u>.87 mills</u>			.88 mills <u>.87 mills</u>
*	*	*	*	*		**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ZONING ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Zoning Case No. 21-13-P, Ordinance No. 6083 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, by amending the zoning of property located on the north side of Flournoy Lucas Road, approximately five hundred fifteen feet west of Winderweedle Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-A, Rural Agriculture District to R-A PUD, Rural Agriculture Planned Unit Development District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 6099 of 2021, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the American Rescue Plan Fund to provide an appropriation for vaccine and pandemic coordination efforts and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 6101 of 2021, an ordinance amending and re-enacting Section 32-46.1 of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances regarding the carrying of weapons, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

WORK SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mr. Cawthorne, *that the Work Session Minutes from August 2, 2021 be ratified. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Burrell, *that Resolution No. 60 of 2021, a resolution urging and requesting the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Conservation, to schedule a meeting with Caddo Parish citizens, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be adopted.*

Substitute motion by Mr. Atkins, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to remove the following language from Resolution No. 60 of 2021: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Caddo Parish Commission urges and request the Department of Natural Resources to enact a six-month moratorium on drilling and fracking within the parish until a resolution to the nuisance issues can be reached.*

Mr. Atkins said that the oil and gas industry has been a foundation on which Caddo Parish's economy was built. He pointed out that there is actually a drilling derrick on the Parish seal. He understands that there are some "bad actors" who are causing some issues with respect to noise, dust, vibration, and emissions and encourages those issues to be policed effectively. Mr. Atkins also pointed out that the Department of Natural Resources has rules in place regarding spacing from buildings, schools, and places of worship. They also have rules in place regarding decibel levels, exhaust, and vibration.

Call for the Question by Mr. Chavez, seconded by Mr. Atkins. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, and Gage-Watts (3). ABSENT: Commissioner Jackson (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

Mr. Chavez wanted to go on the record for the question being called, but allowing a citizen to speak. He wanted to be on the record to state he believes the Commission is out of order.

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

At this time, Resolution No. 60 of 2021 failed as amended, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (6). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

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

ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Burrell**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Resolution No. 61 of 2021, a resolution recommending amending Caddo Parish Personnel Policies to require Parish employees to take a COVID-19 vaccination, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Burrell said that Louisiana had a 700% increase in COVID infections, and now the hospitals in Shreveport are nearly full. He also said that both vaccinated and unvaccinated people can spread the virus. The Delta Variant is extremely contagious. Approximately 85%-90% of those who are dying from the Delta are unvaccinated.

Mr. Hopkins pointed out that there was an employee that was vaccinated, but has since tested positive. He also said that Dr. Wilson has a policy currently in place that says employees must wear masks; he also has the authority to discipline based on that policy.

Mr. Atkins encourages the Caddo Parish employees for wearing masks as well as encouraging the employees to get vaccinated, but is not comfortable with requiring them to be vaccinated.

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to include the following language in Resolution No. 61 of 2021: A. All unvaccinated employees will be required to wear masks at all times during their work hours unless or until this policy is changed following the procedure outlined in the Parish Charter for making Personnel Policy changes; B. All employees are required to promptly inform the Human Resources Director if they have tested positive for COVID-19. Unvaccinated employees shall be required to take unpaid leave for COVID-19 related illnesses or quarantine; and C. All employees will receive vaccination education and training from the local public health office.*

Mr. Jackson said that these amendments are to offer the employees an option in lieu of getting the vaccine. He also pointed out that this resolution is only tasking the Administration for coming up with a policy and to take these items into consideration—to come up with a plan to implement a vaccine policy. Mr. Jackson said that there are employees with comorbidities and illnesses who are scared for their lives. He also mentioned that Caddo Parish School Board has instituted a policy that says educators who don't get the vaccine will have to take unpaid time off.

Mr. Taliaferro said that they can strongly encourage the employees, business owners, or citizens to wear masks, get vaccinated, or stay at home. He said that the role in government with regard to COVID is to provide as much information as possible for those individuals to make informed decisions regarding their own health. He appreciates Mr. Jackson's amendments, but he does have an issue with penalizing any employee who exercises their right whether or not to be injected with the vaccine.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if these amendments would be in lieu of or in addition to Mr. Burrell's proposed resolution. Mr. Jackson said that the amendments would be in lieu of.

Mr. Cawthorne wanted to know if the Commission could implement a mandatory vaccination. Attorney Frazier said that they are in a posture right now where the Department of Justice has issued an opinion saying that mandatory vaccines are permissible, as they are now, which are authorized for emergency use. She also mentioned that it could be challenged. Attorney Frazier also explained that there is a statute in Louisiana that says you can't abridge the right of a person to reject treatment, but that is not applicable here because it does not address what is in the employment or education arena.

Mr. Lazarus quoted the following, "the greatest tyrannies are always perpetuated in the name of the noblest causes".

Mr. Burrell said that the resolution does not state an employee would get fired if they do not get vaccinated. Attorney Frazier explained that the resolution says that an employee would be subject to discipline through their progressive discipline policy.

Call for the Question by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Epperson, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, and Young (8). NAYS: Commissioners Cawthorne, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, and Taliaferro (4). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Jackson's amendment failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, and Jackson (3). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

At this time, Mr. Burrell's original motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, and Johnson (5). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (7). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to reconsider Resolution No. 61*

of 2021. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was then **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to remand Resolution No. 61 of 2021 to the Pandemic Taskforce*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Burrell, Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, Johnson, and Young (7). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, and Taliaferro (5). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, *to englobe and adopt the following items*:

- *Adopt recommendations of the Alcoholic Beverage Committee for selling to underage persons during its June 17, 2021 meeting:*

Cash Magic	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 1
Cash Magic	Second Offense	\$500 fine	District 1
Walmart Supercenter	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 2
The Relay Station	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 8
Speedy's Drive Throux	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 11
S&A Truck Stop	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 11
Tobacco Country	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 12

- *Adopt recommendations of the Alcoholic Beverage Committee for selling to underage persons during its July 22, 2021 meeting:*

Elsie's Truck Stop	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 1
Daiquiri Express	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 2
General Store	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 11
Triple J Travel Plaza	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 11
S&A Truck Stop	Second Offense	\$500 fine	District 11
Speedy's Drive Throux	Second Offense	\$500 fine	District 11
Stonewall Bev Co	First Offense	\$250 fine	District 11
Stonewall Bev Co	Second Offense	\$500 fine	District 11

- *Confirm reappointment of Brenda Smith to the North Caddo Hospital Service District Board. Term to expire July 1, 2027*
- *Confirm appointment of Michael Nation, Sr. to the North Caddo Hospital Service District Board to replace Kenneth Clay, who is retiring. Term to expire July 10, 2027.*
- *Confirm appointments of Ken Krefft, Lt. General (ret) James Kowalski, and Gisele Proby Bryant to the Juvenile Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee*

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. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to enforce Governor John Bel Edwards' Proclamation No. 137 regarding the wearing of face masks*.

Mr. Young wanted to know if this included the Commissioners sitting around the horseshoe. Mr. Johnson explained that there is plexiglass in place to safeguard the Commissioners, staff, and visitors. He also said that visitors in the Chambers would need to wear masks.

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, Jackson, Johnson, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioners Hopkins and Lazarus (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that all committee hearings be held via teleconference when eligible*.

Mr. Epperson said that this would minimize personal contact as much as possible.

Substitute motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *that committee meeting be held via teleconference by call of the Chairperson*. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus,

Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioners Burrell and Epperson (2). ABSENT: None (0). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Taliaferro, *to include statement of Chamber COVID-19 protocols on the agenda before the Roll Call. Motion carried by acclamation.*

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to move the following items to the August 16, 2021 Work Session:*

- *Discussion related to trash, litter, and aesthetics in the Parish*
- *Action relative to oil and gas drilling in District 12*

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

COMMUNIQUES & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Jackson asked that conversations and discussions be had with him concerning issues in his district prior to it being placed on the agenda.
- Mrs. Gage-Watts thanked Administration and staff for assisting her constituents anytime they ask for help. She also asked for more information regarding land being cleared out on South Lakeshore Drive.
- Mr. Cawthorne announced that the Women of Vision will be hosting a Stay Safe Resource Health Fair on August 10. The purpose is to educate and update Parish citizens on pertinent issues on safety and resources available. There will also be COVID testing and vaccinations. He encouraged all to attend.
- Mr. Burrell wanted to know if the federal moratorium has been extended. Dr. Wilson said that it is October 3. Mrs. Barnett explained that there is a form that has to be filled out in order to qualify for the eviction moratorium; it is not across the board. She also explained that the form is on the website.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Johnson thanked Administration for all of their hard work with the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, as well as working with the American Rescue Plan to develop a comprehensive plan.

He also announced that Mrs. Cynthia Jenkins' funeral will be held on Saturday at 12:00 noon at the Municipal Auditorium.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.


Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk


Lyndon B. Johnson
President